

Board of Directors

Tom Mann

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◆ Summer is going way too fast. Michigan Home Care is gearing up for a full year of activity for members and the August Bulletin has the information you need to know. ◆ June is when most of our members renew membership but there are a few who have not renewed yet. Thank you to those members who renewed on-time as we appreciate your continued support. Your membership with Michigan Home Care could be one of the best investments you make in your agency. If your renewal is still sitting on the corner of your desk, please send it in. ◆ Fighting Fraud and Abuse. Last week, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a temporary and targeted moratorium on the approval of new home health agencies in the Miami and Chicago metropolitan areas. According to CMS, the goal of the moratoria is to fight fraud and safeguard taxpayer dollars, while ensuring patient access to care. Authority to impose such moratoria was included in the Affordable Care Act, and CMS is exercising this authority for the first time. There are areas of SE Michigan that continue to receive targeted enforcement by the Department of Justice and CMS’s action in Chicago and Miami could happen to other areas including pockets of SE Michigan where several indictments have been issued in recent years. Michigan Home Care fully supports the action taken by CMS. We look forward to continue working with CMS and the Department of Justice as they continue targeting enforcement in the problem areas of Michigan. The Michigan Home Care Website has a link on the home page to report suspected fraud. ◆ Talk with your federal and state legislators while they are in their home districts this summer. There is certainly no shortage of issues facing our member agencies and I encourage everyone to engage legislators in conversation about the issues impacting you and your agency. Every segment of the home care industry is facing regulatory and legislative threats and opportunities at both the federal and state level and the Michigan Home Care Public Policy Committee continues to recommend policy positions and monitors the issues. Here are some key issues that you can help with by talking with your elected officials:

◆ Rebasing Home Health Payments. Last month, CMS announced proposed changes to the Medicare home health prospective payment system (HHPPS) for 2014 incorporating rebasing along with changes in case mix weights. The CMS proposal would apply the full 3.5% rate cut. The results of such a cut would be an overall payment reduction of \$290 million based on projected spending in 2014. In related activity, Michigan Congressman Dave Camp released draft legislation that would seriously change the benefit structure of Medicare. Proposals included in the draft legislation range from increasing the Medicare Part B deductible for new enrollees to increasing income-related premiums under Parts B & D. Of greatest concern to Michigan Home Care is the suggested implementation of home health copay. Michigan Home Care remains committed to its opposition to shifting additional costs onto Medicare Home Health copayments. ◆ F2F. The Medicare home health face-to-face (F2F) physician encounter requirements continue to be a major problem for home health agencies and their patients. Michigan Home Care and 37 home care agencies coming together from across the nation to gain support for a “Dear Colleague” letter to be sent to CMS. A copy of the draft letter was delivered to every member of the House of Representatives and will ask CMS for relief from the onerous F2F documentation requirements placed on home care agencies. The bipartisan Dear Colleague letter — sent by Representatives Tom Reed (R-NY), Paul Tonko (D-NY), Chris Smith (R-NJ), and Robert Andrews (D-NJ) — invites other members of the House to join them in signing the letter going to CMS. ◆ Companionship Exemption. Continued efforts by the US Department of Labor to eliminate the Companionship Exemption require our strong opposition. In Michigan, elimination of the federal exemption would then eliminate the exemption we currently have in Michigan for “live in” caregivers. ◆ Health Insurance Mandate. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced S. 1188, the Forty Hours is Full-Time Act, earlier this year. The bill aims to modify certain provisions in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to define a “full-time employee” as someone who works forty hours a week. The ACA, as it’s currently written, classifies “full-

time employees” as anyone who works thirty hours a week or more. S.1188 would allow employees to work more than 30 hours a week without triggering penalties under the ACA on the businesses that hire them. ♦ HME – Market Pricing Plan. Our Home Medical Equipment suppliers are suffering from the July 1, implementation of Round 2 Competitive Bidding. Michigan Home Care issued a supporting declaration in a lawsuit brought in federal court against CMS by AAHomecare. Competitive Bidding continues to be implemented so we must continue our efforts in support of HR 1717 to replace competitive bidding with the Market Pricing Plan. ♦ Medicaid Expansion. Medicaid Expansion continues to be a hot issue here in Michigan and we are finally seeing some progress after a key State Senate Committee moved the plan to the full Senate for vote expected in late August or early September. Michigan Home Care continues to support expansion of Michigan Medicaid as well as an increase to the Medicaid provider rate. We need you to urge your state legislators to support Medicaid expansion. ♦ Again, I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to get to know your elected officials. They have the ability to impact your agency both positively and negatively and it’s our job to educate them on the issues important to our agencies. ♦ While most Michigan Home Care Committee’s took a break in July, this month will get very busy again. Please continue reading this issue of the Bulletin and if you are not actively involved in your association, please make August the month you start.

IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalewski

♦ The Infection Control/IV Subcommittee met on July 2th. The group has finally completed the review and revision of Michigan Association for Home Care IV Policy and Procedure Manual. We are now working on the Format, Content Page, Addendum inclusions, and References. We are coming really close to have everything ready to give to Mary for typing. This has been a long and arduous project, but we believe it will be extremely valuable to our members when caring for patients receiving Infusion Therapy. If you have questions for the committee to address or would like to join please contact the Michigan Association for Home Care office.

Private Duty

Sheila Doeden & Tom Rowley

♦ Michigan Association for Home Care’s Private Duty Committee met June 18, 2013 via teleconference. Our next meeting is August 20, 2013 in Okemos. ♦ There will be a work group meeting in August with the Home Care Association of America formerly the NPDA and other interested parties to discuss SB 71. ♦ A meeting was held July 16, 2013 to discuss Live-in care and potential definitions. Attorney Kim Pendrick from Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook spoke about the Fair Labor Standards Act and how it impacts Live-in caregiver wages. ♦ Definition at the Federal level: An employee who performs companionship services in or about the private home of the person by whom he/she is employed is exempt from the FLSA’s minimum wage and overtime requirements if all criteria of the exemption are met. When Michigan’s minimum wage first exceeded the federal minimum wage, many employers who previously had FLSA exemptions for their employees were concerned because Michigan did not provide for the same exemptions. Michigan quickly amended the Michigan Minimum Wage Act to provide that it did not apply “to an employee who is exempt from the minimum wage requirements of the fair labor standards act of 1938, 29 USC 201 to 219.” ♦ Currently Michigan Association for Home Care is continuing to work with community partners in the state on defining what a live-in caregiver means.

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

♦ The Reimbursement Committee met by Tele-Conference on July 17th, 2013. Please join us for the next meeting On-Site at 9:30 on August 21st. ♦ The Committee discussed the 2% Sequestration with Medicare and Medicare Advantage Plans. The Blue Cross Liaison Meeting Minutes were sent to the Reimbursement Committee members. The conversation between the group members is always beneficial as knowledge is shared that helps everyone. ♦ The Accountable Care Act penalties for employers only have been delayed by one year. ♦ **Reimbursement now has its own ListServ!!** Please email Cindy Thelen cindyth@homecaremi.org at MHA if you are interested in participating in this ListServ. There is also a Billing ListServ that you can participate in. ♦ 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

◆ Leadership for this committee is changing at this time and we hope to have this matter settled in August. ◆ The Committee is working on ICD-10 preparations and assistance to member agencies with this planning. ◆ A new issue was brought up regarding CMS' proposed changes to the provider enrollment requirements and expansion of revocation of billing services if a provider has a pattern or practice of billing for services that do not meet Medicare requirements. There is no definition of what this interpretation means. ◆ A pain assessment tool was distributed to members which is appropriate for use with patients diagnosed with dementia – the PAINAD. ◆ Next meeting will be August 15 after Clinical Ops.

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 will begin identifying topics and speakers at their August meeting. If you are interested in participating in the committee, please contact cindy@homecaremi.org. ◆ Mark your Calendars! Michigan Home Care will be holding a Subcontracting Workshop for HME/Infusion providers with Michigan's very own Mary Wickens on Subcontracting on August 19th. It will be a great opportunity to get up to speed on the subcontracting world. This workshop will be followed the HME/Infusion regular monthly meeting. ◆ 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 for the many teleconference opportunities coming up in the next few months. Ranging from HIPAA, Face to Face, home health aide topics and much more. ◆ 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 did not meet in July. Our next meeting will be August 15 at 9:30. The Committee will be discussing Medicaid Face to Face issues, continuing discussion about Q code issues related to the new place of service reporting requirements, etc. ◆ We are encouraging any and all interested participants to join our Rehab Subcommittee as they work on therapy related issues such as ST licensure and reassessment issues.

Membership

Tom Mann

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

Delta Care Services, LLC

Contact: Kelly Toone

201 Mall Drive, South

Lansing, MI 48197

Phone: 517/323-6970

Fax: 517/323-7951

E-mail: ktoone@deltaretirement.com

Regular Member – Private Duty

Home Care Billing Solutions

Contact: Art Homer

124 Sterling Court

Battle Creek, MI 49015

Phone: 888/546-1909

Fax: 269/601-7150

E-mail: service@homecarebillingsolutions.com

Associate Member

Michigana Home Care, Inc.

Contact: Mark Fortune

423 Sycamore Street, Suite 104

Niles, MI 49120-2374

Phone: 269/687-2900

Fax: 269/687-2903

E-mail: marketing@michianahomecare.com

Regular Member - Certified

Mike Hall

1976 Roxbury Run

Wixom, MI 48393

Phone: 248/444-7103

E-mail: mmhall7@ameritech.net

Individual Member

◆ The Membership Committee is continuing to work on the Michigan Home Care Website. We hope to have things up and running by sometime in September. ◆ The Committee is also beginning review other membership topics such as dues structure, member services etc. If you are interested in being part of this process and participating on the Membership Committee please contact the Michigan Home Care office or e-mail cindy@homecareMI.org for information.

HME/Infusion

Julie Johnson & Brian Griffore

◆ Michigan Home Care will be holding a Subcontracting Workshop presented by Mary Wickens. This workshop will assist those affected by the Round 2 Competitive Bidding and who are considering entering into subcontracting arrangements either as a prime contractor or a subcontractor. Register for his event at www.homecaremi.org "Events" page. ◆ The next HME/Infusion Committee meeting will be Monday, August 19, 2013 at the Michigan Home Care Office immediately following the Mary Wickens Subcontracting Workshop.

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinkel

The next Public Policy Committee teleconference will be Friday, September 6, at 10:00 am. All members are welcome to participate in this meeting which is normally held the 1st. Friday of each month.

Links of Interest

[HIPPA 2013 And Beyond--Webinar](#) – August 6, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Understanding Home Health COP's](#) - August 8, 2013

[Better Business Bootcamp](#) – August 14, 2013

[Subcontracting Arrangements for Home Medical Equipment](#) – August 19, 2013

[Face 2 Face Compliance](#) – August 22, 2013

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

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

[Executive Committee](#) – August 22, 2013

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) - August 7, 2013

[HME Committee](#) – August 19, 2013

[Infection Control/IV](#) – August 15, 2013

[Membership/Finance Committee](#) –August 13, 2013

[Private Duty Committee](#) –August 20, 2013

[Reimbursement Committee](#) – August 21, 2013

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – August 15, 2013

[Regulatory Committee](#) –August 15, 2013

[Public Policy Committee](#) – August 2, 2013

Education Committee – August 29, 2013

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