

Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ What an exciting year! This marks my last column serving as your Michigan Home Care Board President. I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who has come to a committee meeting or attended education or legislative events this past year and encourage your continuing and increased involvement. I don't know of any other organization that offers more in return for what you put into it. ◆ **Our New Brand. – Michigan Home Care.** This year the Michigan Association for Home Care celebrates our 32nd year. While the name may have changed, our purpose and core mission remains as it has for our 32 year history. "Michigan Home Care" is our new brand and while it may take some getting used to, we hope it will convey a strong message of support for all segments of the home care industry in Michigan. The Membership Committee is actively engaged with our Public Relations Firm, Edge Partnership and will be implementing the branding campaign while we also make a major investment to upgrade the website. Anyone with marketing or branding experience or the interest to learn is welcome to participate on the Membership Committee's Branding Task Force. ◆ **State Legislative Conference - May 8.** The Public Policy Committee will host the 24th annual State Legislative Day and I hope you will make it a priority to attend. Check out the Public Policy Committee Column for specific information and a list of the priority issues. To register, contact Mary Pfeiffer at the Michigan Home Care Office at MaryP@homecaremi.org 517 349-8089 X10. The cost is free but it could be a valuable investment for your agency. ◆ **"Don't Miss the Boat"** Annual Education Conference. The biggest event of our year is the Annual Education Conference and Annual Meeting. I encourage every member to attend the conference being held May 22 – 24 at the Grand Traverse Resort in beautiful Acme, Michigan. The Conference room rate is still available until rooms sell out so if you are not registered, do so now. Call the Michigan Home Care office or go online at www.homecaremi.org to register. We have five national speakers this year and the program will be packed solid with valuable information with learning tracks that are specific to each of the service lines in the home care industry: certified, private duty, hospice, home medical equipment and pharmacy-infusion. Check out Deb Holman's Education Committee report later in this Bulletin for the impressive list of National Experts lined up this year. Most of the Michigan Home Care committees will meet during the Conference so this is your

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chance to jumpstart your committee involvement for next year. Home care is changing and this conference will help you position your agency for health care reform so that you "Don't Miss the Boat". ◆ **Renew Your Dues this Month.** With the exception of new members, all dues renewals are due before June 1. Please make sure you are paid up so you don't miss out on any of the great events being planned for next year. ◆ **Annual Meeting - May 23.** The Michigan Home Care Annual Meeting will be held during the Education Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort starting at 4:30 PM. I encourage everyone to attend the Annual Business Meeting for the Association. Among other business, new Board members will be announced and those members leaving the Board will be honored for their service. Leaving the Board this year will be Donna Kleinschmit and Chris Kisell. I really appreciate their leadership. They are not eligible to serve another term but I know they will remain actively involved. Steve Slater of Airway Oxygen served as the Nominating Committee Chair this year and I invite you to check out his column elsewhere in the Bulletin for an update on the slate of candidates recommended by Steve and his fellow Nominating Committee members. ◆ **New Board President in June.** As my year as the Board President concludes, help me welcome Tom Mann of Michigan Visiting Nurses and Michigan Visiting Care (University of Michigan) who will move up to be Board President beginning June 1. You will recall Tom was elected by the members last year to be President-elect and served this past year as an important member of the Executive Committee. One of the many leadership tasks Tom provided past years was to serve as Chair of the Membership Committee. The Committee was tasked with implementing the name change and branding campaign for the association. Tom brings great home care experience and with your support, next year will be even better for the association, your agency and your career. ◆ It is a pleasure to serve as your Board President this year but I still have until the end of May before I turn over the gavel to your new President. I'm saving my farewell speech for the Annual meeting on May 23 so "Don't Miss the Boat". I hope to see everyone there.

Private Duty

Sheila Doeden & Tom Mann

◆ Michigan Association for Home Care's (formerly the MHHA) Private Duty Committee met April 16, 2013 via teleconference. With the change in the name, there are new email addresses for those at the office in Okemos, they will now be:

Cindy Thelen cindy@homecaremi.org

Barry Cargill barryc@homecaremi.org

Mary Pfeiffer maryp@homecaremi.org

And the new website address is:

<http://www.homecaremi.org/>

◆ Discussion about the elimination of the Companionship Exemption at a federal level that's currently in place and discussions were held with the Michigan Congressional Delegation. The Association fully supports legislation and keeping the exemption in place. There are questions about the definition for caregivers providing live in care and discussion continues about what the definition looks like. ◆ The new licensure is SB71. Discussion with the NPDA continues to clarify what licensure will look like. ◆ Medicaid expansion in Michigan is supported at the state level which means no cost to the State. ◆ The Association continues to work with CPAN and discussion about PIP coverage changes and the catastrophic claims fund continue. Nothing has been passed at the State level at this time. ◆ The Association will be working on a HHA program talks with nurse planners continue and this should be put in place by July 2013. ◆ Upcoming events include the Legislative Day May 8, in Lansing at the Capitol 10:30-1:30 MHHA members gather for orientation in Room 402 & 403 of the Capitol Building. 11:00 A.M. Lunch with Legislators, 1st Floor North Wing of the Capitol. 1:30 P.M. This is an opportunity to meet with your legislators and educate them about home care. ◆ The Annual Conference will be held May 22-24 at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Traverse City and technology is the theme.

Regulatory

Jean Pattee & Valerie Ghattas

◆ The Regulatory Committee met on Thursday, April 18, 2013. At this meeting, most of our attention was addressing comments to the Michigan Department of Community Health regarding the proposed policy of Home Health Agency Face to Face Encounter Requirement for Initial Certification. A comments letter was drafted to be sent as the comment period ends on April 24. There are many questions that this committee had in regard to the proposed policy including homebound status requirement and the requirement beginning with care beginning on or after January 1, 2011. Other questions included issues about education of Pediatricians, PECOS, and managed care Medicaid. ◆ Other topics that were addressed included a handout on ICD 10 timeframe for use by agencies as a guide and checklist. Discussion included who will be coding for

agencies, and there are several options discussed, clinicians vs. coders. Documentation will be so important to support the ICD 10 codes. Also, mentioned was the need to verify with software vendors that they will be ready with ICD 10 coding. ◆ Speech Therapists will be required to be licensed in Michigan by December 11, 2013. ◆ The next meeting will be June 20, 2013 in Okemos. Please feel welcome to join the meeting, which meets immediately following the Clinical Operations Meeting.

IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalewski

◆ The IV/Infection Control Subcommittee met on 4/18/2013. We are making great progress on our MAHC Infusion Policies and procedures. We can almost see "the light at the end of the tunnel". We have almost completed the review, and then will make final decisions on the format and addendum items. If you have questions for the committee to address or would like to join please contact the Michigan Home Care office. The next meeting will be on June 20, 2013, directly following the Clinical Ops meeting.

PAC

Larry Treece

◆ Good Morning and Happy Spring 2013. As always I must thank all the PAC supporters who continue to keep the SILENT AUCTION alive at the Annual Conference. To my friends on Public Policy I salute you for your continued interest in the issues that make this great State move ahead. I listened to the Governor's town Hall meeting last week and I am always encouraged by his "enthusiasm" and let's keep Michigan moving attitude. He did state that he did NOT think the Feds. will be ready with the Insurance exchange by October....so will Obama Care be delayed? He also is still working to reform AUTO NO FAULT...in fact, as of the writing, it passed out of committee yesterday with all Republicans voting yes...very disappointing!! We continue to work with others to oppose this important part of Michigan coverage for those injured in an Auto Accident. In this case, the Democrats are saying NO to changing Auto-no-Fault, HB4612. Other items we are following are Medicaid expansion and reimbursement, restore companionship exemption, define "live in" and oppose single source suppliers...and the fight goes on!! ◆ I am asking you to take this challenge. I will match up to \$500 dollars any donations you can make to the PAC.....see you in Lansing next week and in Traverse City for Annual Conference. PLEASE BRING, SEND, WRITE A CHECK, DONATE AN ITEM TO THE PAC SILENT AUCTION. Every donation counts!

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

◆ The Reimbursement Committee met on April 17th, 2013. Please join us for the next meeting onsite at 9:30 on June 19th. ◆ There will be a Billers Committee Meeting on May 30th which will focus on Medicare Part B and Medicare Secondary Payer issues. ◆ It's Benchmark Time!!! The Benchmarking period is 01/01/13 – 03/31/13 and will be due by May 10th. 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 Committee discussed the 2% Sequestration and other fiscal cliff issues. At this time, none of the agencies have seen the sequestration on the on remittance advices. The Committee also discussed the Accountable Care Act and the possible insurance requirements for employees. We discussed what agencies were thinking about doing with regard to FTE's and how they would be counting them. Covering employees with insurance will be very costly and could be a very large hardship. There will be 5 national speakers at the Annual Conference that will hopefully shed some light on the subject. ◆ **Reimbursement now has its own ListServ!!** Please email Cindy Thelen thelen.cindy@mhha.org at MHHA if you are interested in participating in this ListServ. There is also a Billing ListServ that you can participate in. ◆ 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 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

◆ Registrations are still being taken for the 2013 Michigan Association for Home Care's Annual Conference. ◆ Check the MHHA Website Calendar of Events Page for registration information for above workshops and additional teleconferences and webinars taking place over the next couple of months.

Clinical Operations

Donna Kleinschmit & Sara Simonds

◆ The Clinical Ops committee met on Thursday April 18, 2013. Executive Directors report – Barry announced the roll out of the association's new name as Michigan Association for Home Care. NAHC and Michigan Association for Home Care are fighting to prevent the proposed addition of copays for home health. Barry encouraged everyone to attend the annual Legislative Day on May 8, 2013. ◆ MDLARA – Revised organizational chart provided. ◆ BCBSM update – April 25 meeting specifically for DME is scheduled. Minutes of the last meeting are available. ◆ NGS – next meeting will be in June. ◆ Regulatory Committee has been working on ICD-10 readiness; Discussed response needed to proposed Medicaid implementation of F2F requirements before end of comment period on 4/24/13. Response drafted and submitted. ◆ Subcommittees: IV therapy/Infection prevention – continues work on the MHHA policy and procedure manual – almost completed. Psych – no active issues; Rehab subcommittee – no report. ◆ There will be no Clinical Operations committee meeting in May due to the annual conference. We will meet again in June 2013.

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinkel

State Legislative Day in Lansing is May 8, 10:30 – 1:30. Please Come to Lansing. The cost is free but please register your attendance at <https://m360.mhha.org/event.aspx?eventID=76082&instance=0> or call Mary at the Michigan Home Care Offices 517 349-8089 X 10. Those attending should plan to meet on the 4th Floor of the Capitol in the Senate Committee Room. Take the elevator located at the ground floor information booth up to the 4th floor. **Priority State Level Issues include:** ◆ **Oppose HB 4612 (auto no-fault).** We support Michigan's current No-Fault Auto system. We oppose Senate bill 4612 because it seeks to reduce the current level of coverage for Personal Injury Protection (PIP). Michigan insurance companies want to cap injury and rehabilitation auto insurance benefits (known as Personal Injury Protection). If passed this legislation will reduce home care benefits with no guarantee of reduced auto premiums or health care savings; increase insurance for those wanting the same level of coverage as they have today; force seriously injured individuals into welfare programs to pay for their extensive care and reduce the quality of life for patients severely injured in an auto accident. ◆ **Expand Michigan Medicaid.** We urge the Michigan Legislature to support expansion of Michigan Medicaid benefits to individuals up to

138% of the Federal Poverty Level. Michigan has an unprecedented opportunity to improve the health of Michigan's low-income residents and reduce uncompensated care that drives up cost for everyone. Untreated conditions frequently escalate requiring more expensive and more complex treatment. Providing comprehensive benefits to the newly eligible population will empower and allow them to receive needed medical care and to take control of their healthcare needs. As indicated above, services for the Medicaid expansion population will be 100% federally funded for the first three years, requiring no state funds investment. After three years, the federal government will fund 90% and the state 10%. ♦ **Licensure of In-Home Care Services.** We support SB 71 (Mark Jansen-R Gains Twp.) to require licensure of the home care industry in Michigan. Senior citizens and persons with disabilities should be served by providers who can meet minimum quality, safety and professional integrity standards. Licensure is sought for home health (certified/Medicare) agencies and private duty home care agencies. Regrettably, Michigan has joined the ranks of Florida and Texas as states with the highest incidence of fraud and abuse in the delivery of health services. As a result, the Federal government has dispatched a Health Care Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) to Michigan. All indications are that waste, fraud and abuse are best prevented rather than dealt with after the fact. Consumers depend on the protections you can grant them with your yes vote on SB 71 for In-Home Care Licensure. ♦ **Restore the companionship exemption for in-home services and clearly define "Live-In home care Services".** The home care companionship services should be restored and live-in exemptions clearly defined and protected under Michigan wage and hour laws. Without the companionship and live-in exemptions, these essential services will become more costly for over-burdened individuals and public programs that finance the care. The quality of care would suffer as individuals go without needed care or shift to the "grey market" which lacks oversight and performance standards. We support legislation being introduced to achieve this priority. ♦ **We urge your support of adequate reimbursement rates for Medicaid providers of home care, home medical equipment and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS).** Woefully inadequate reimbursement rates have created a severe access to care problem for special needs kids and for consumers of home care supports and services. Medicaid reimbursement rates are inadequate, lower than other Midwest states and add to a serious shortage of providers available to serve Medicaid beneficiaries in need of products and services essential to

their health and well-being. There have been no across the board rate increases since 2001, with rate reductions in FY 03, FY 05 and FY 09. Pushing patients to hospital emergency rooms results in a cost-shift that drives expenditures significantly upward, not down. Support of home and community-based services is good budget stewardship and good public policy. ♦ **We urge your support of policy prohibiting single source health care provider contracts.** Single source contracts and exclusive single provider networks deprive consumers of their option to choose providers of health care goods and services who can best meet their needs. Restrictive provider panel contracts can lead to patient access to care issues. Further, quality and safety become a serious concern when all willing and qualified professional providers are not allowed to participate. It can be particularly damaging to consumers when a provider holds conflict of interest as both a supplier and the administrator of a single source network. Finally, it has been demonstrated that single source contracts (e.g., Priority Health Medicaid) do not achieve significant savings over an "all willing provider" system. We urge your support of an open provider market and the principles of consumer choice and access to care. ♦ This list is certainly not complete but reflects our highest State Level priorities. Members attending State Legislative Day should plan to discuss additional issues impacting their agency while in Lansing. The MHHA Public Policy Committee meets the first Friday of each month at 10:00 AM. You can add your email to the Committee notice list simply by notifying the MHHA office at MaryP@MichiganHomeCare.org

Membership

Tom Mann

♦ We are excited to have our new logo in place and our branding campaign moving forward! The Michigan Association for Home Care name change is the first step in the process and you will continue to see exciting changes taking shape within the organization. We are currently in the process of updating infrastructure that will allow us to improve our website and the content included. This will assist us in moving our branding campaign forward. If you are interested in being part of this process and participating on the membership committee please contact the association office or e-mail cindy@homcaremi.org for information.

HME Report

Brian Griffore & Julie Johnson

◆ The HME Committee had their monthly Teleconference Call on Monday, April 15, 2013. Mark Higley, VP of Development with VGM, presented a webinar on Competitive Bidding – Round 2. As everyone is aware, Round 2 will be implemented on July 1st, 2013. If you were not able to attend this webinar, slides are available, please contact maryp@homecaremi.org and she will forward a copy to you. If you have questions, please contact Mark Higley at: (O) 888-224-1631, (C) 319-504-9515, Mark.higley@vgm.com. ◆ A new MPP bill was introduced for the industry's alternative to Competitive Bidding - H.R. 1717, the "Medicare DMEPOS Market Pricing Program Act of 2013," It currently has 25 co-sponsors. Representatives Tom Price, R-Ga., and John Larson, D-Conn., introduced the bill April 24. ◆ The next HME Meeting will be held at the annual conference in Traverse City on Wednesday, May 22nd at 11:15. Meeting room to be announced. Hope you see you there.

Nominating

Steve Slater

◆ The Nominating Committee, following an open call for nominations, considered the qualifications of nominated candidates, including but not limited to the following criteria: the strategic plan and leaders who could help achieve the plan's goals, geographical representation, professional expertise, and participation in the association's activities. The Committee recommended a slate of seven candidates to fill seven open seats on the Board of Directors and forwarded the slate to the voting members for their consideration. The newly elected members will be announced at the Annual Meeting to be held May 23, at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City.

Members Nominated for Election to serve two year terms (2013 – 2014). The Nominees are:

Home Medical Equipment (One Seat Open)

Brian Griffore, Airway Oxygen, Inc.

Certified (One Seat Open)

Sara Simonds, Lakeland Home Care

Home Infusion Pharmacy (One Seat Open)

Tricia Sirois, Med/Equip Home Med/ Wheelchair Seating Services

Hospice (One Seat Open)

Laura Bonde, Trinity Home Health Services

Private Duty (One Seat Open)

Sheila Doeden, Senior Helpers

Member at Large (Two Seats Open)

Coleen Murphy-DeOrsey, Optimal Care, Inc.

Jill Roby-Snyder, Mid Michigan Home Care

Ethics

Sue Clemen-Stone

◆ Remember that Ethics Committee arranged for two presentations by Dr. Leonard Weber at the Annual Conference. First Presentation is Wednesday, May 22nd 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – Mobile Technology and Patient Confidentiality and 2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Managing Difficult Situations Related to Family Caregivers. ◆ Next meeting will be June 5, 2013 at the MHHA office.

Hospice

Laura Bonde & Rene Wheaton

◆ Hospice met May 1, 2013. Barry gave an update regarding event coming up. Legislative Day is May 8th. There will be discussing of Medicaid Expansion and auto-no-fault. It is important that all our members are there and represented. ◆ The next Hospice NGS meeting will be June 13, 2013, if you have issues you would like addressed, please contact the office. ◆ Next MDLARA meeting is scheduled for June. There are changes occurring in the survey division. ◆ Annual Conference is coming up May 22-24, 2013. ◆ MPRO has done work on Care Transitions. It was featured in JAMA article. Summary is available at www.mpro.org. Flint received formal care transition funding and will be working under project boost. That makes for 5 formal care transitions groups in the state. ◆ There are changes coming to reimbursement. There is a proposal for BNAF phase out, coding clarification, change in quality reporting for FY 16 and the development of the HIS. Please bring questions regarding these proposed changes to the next meeting. ◆ We were notified on March 8th that the VA benefits would no longer be covering room and board at a hospice residence. There is talk that Medicaid payment to Hospice residence facilities will be phased out by September 30th. ◆ Chris Garfield gave a presentation on HIPAA. ◆ Next meeting will be June 5, 2013. Janet Martinich will be presenting at next meeting on regulatory issues and other current topics from Michigan Hospice Conference.

Links of Interest

[MHHA Legislative Day](#) – May 8, 2013

[ICD-10 Coding: Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue; Diseases of the Genitourinary System](#) – May 8, 2013

[The Aide's Role in Maintaining Professional Boundaries](#) – May 9, 2013

[Hospice Education: What to Expect When a Patient is Actively Dying](#) – May 14, 2013

[2013 Legal Summit Teleconference - Labor Laws for Non-Union Agencies](#) – May 16, 2013

[MHHA Annual Conference](#) – May 22-24, 2013

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>

Committee Calendar

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) – June 5, 2013

[HME Committee \(at Annual Conference\)](#) – May 22, 2013

[Private Duty Committee \(At Annual Conference\)](#) – May 22, 2013

Reimbursement Committee Teleconference – Not Meeting in May

Clinical Operations Committee Meeting – Not Meeting in May

[Board of Directors Meeting \(At Annual Conference\)](#) – May 21, 2013

Regulatory Committee – Not Meeting in May

IV/Infection Control – Not Meeting in May

[Public Policy Committee](#) – June 7, 2013

[Ethics Committee](#) – June 5, 2013

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