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Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



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Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ What a great turn-out we had for the MHHA Legislative Day at the State Capitol in April. We had forty five members, eighty four legislators and thirty five staff for what I believe is the best attended Legislative Day during my years of involvement with MHHA. MHHA members were briefed on our priority issues and teamed up to talk with our legislators during lunch on the first floor North wing of the Capitol Building. Thank you all for attending and making a difference for our industry by educating our legislators on the issues important to the home care industry in Michigan. ◆ Remember to express your gratitude to nurses this week during **National Nurses Week** (May 6-12, 2012) for taking such great care of our families, friends and neighbors. ◆ **WOW!** This is my last Bulletin column as your MHHA Board President. I'd like to thank everyone who has come to a committee meeting or event to help make this past year so successful. My greatest complement will one day come in the future when I look back at new events we started this year and the progression of new leaders introduced to MHHA. This is truly the member's organization and your involvement is limited only by the limits you place on yourself. Our organization is great because of you, the people involved in the twenty two committees and subcommittees which do the work of MHHA. It has been my privilege to have served as your Board President and I am grateful to my fellow Board Members, Committee Leaders and wonderful Staff. ◆ As my year concludes help me welcome John Ruswinkel, CEO of Lifespan Inc. in Battle Creek. You will recall John was elected by the members last May to be MHHA's incoming Board President beginning with the new MHHA fiscal year on June 1, 2012. John brings great home care experience and with your support, next year is sure to be an even better year for MHHA and the Michigan home care industry, your profession and your organization. ◆ The best event of the year is the MHHA Annual Education Conference and Annual Meeting. I encourage every member to attend the conference being held May 23 - 25 at the Grand Traverse Resort in beautiful Acme, Michigan. It's not too late to register so if you have not done so call Mary Pfeiffer or Cindy Thelen at the MHHA office or go online at www.MHHA.org to register. The conference program offers great value to all home care providers. Conference content features learning tracks that are specific to each of the service lines in the home care industry: certified, private duty, hospice, HME and pharmacy-infusion. Presenting will be experts from all over the country on finance, marketing, legal issues,

Inside This Issue

Board of Directors • Infection Control	1
Complex Rehab • Regulatory • Membership	2
Rehab	2
Private Duty • Education • PAC • HME/Infusion	3
Clinical Operations • Reimbursement	4
Public Policy	4
Links of Interest	5

compliance with regulatory and reimbursement changes, audits, clinical subjects, technology. MHHA Committees will all meet at some point during the Conference so this is your chance to jumpstart your committee involvement for next year. The conference is packed full of the people and knowledge to help you position yourself and your agency to succeed in the ever changing dynamics of health care. ◆ New Board officers are elected at the Annual meeting held May 23 during the Conference. Last month, the MHHA Nominating Committee presented the voting members with a full slate of candidates for the Board and the MHHA voting members are in the process now of returning ballots. On May 23, final ballots must be turned in at the MHHA registration table at the Grand Traverse Resort before the 2:30 pm deadline. So if you have not returned your ballot yet, bring it with you to the conference and join us for the Annual Membership Meeting at 4:30 that day. Board election results will be announced and we will reflect on the success of the past year and begin the steps to make next year even better. Hope to see you there!

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 March, 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." Thanks so much for all your hard work. See you at the Conference.



Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

◆ Regulatory Committee deferred its traditional meeting to attend the State Legislature Day. There is no meeting in May do to the MHHA Annual Conference. The next meeting will be June 21, 2012 at the MHHA office, following the Clinical Ops meeting.

Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

◆ The Rehab Committee did not meet in April. The Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) released to the public its report to Governor Snyder containing 63 recommendations for improving Michigan's occupational licensing regulations. 18 occupations were recommended for deregulation (including Speech Pathologist) and 9 occupational boards were recommended for elimination (including the Board of Occupational Therapy and the Board of Speech Language Pathology). The complete report can be viewed at:

<http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-35738-275942--,00.html>

◆ 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 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 Membership Committee received the final survey results and recommendations compiled and presented by Lorri Jandron/Edge Partnership. These results were shared with the Board of Directors for discussion at the April meeting. The Membership Committee with input from the Board will prioritize the recommendations that are deemed important to the organization and create an action plan. One of the primary goals of the committee is to recruit additional members to join the Membership Committee so we have representation and input from all auspices. With additional representation, the Committee will be able to develop a membership retention and growth strategy which will attract all areas of home health.

◆ The Membership Committee has also recommended to the Board that some of the recommendations be used to assist in the develop of the strategic plan for MHHA. We've also requested that the organization use a Strategic Planning Consultant which will be presented to the Board for discussion and approval. ◆ Hope to see you all at the conference!

Complex Rehab

Michael Barner

Hot topics:

- 1) **CRT Separate Benefit for Medicare now has a bill introduced in the House **H.R. 4378****
 - a. **Please contact your Congressmen and ask them to support this bill.**
- 2) As of May 15th Medicaid is going to include the transit/tie down/D-loops in the base of the wheelchair. No reimbursement!!
- 3) Sometime in the near future Medicaid will be introducing a new MSA-1656 form.
 - a. Watch for the bulletin or email announcing this.
- 4) No update on the RENTAL w/c's requiring the 1656 post 3 months of discharge. "They are reviewing this requirement".

Action items:

- 1) MHHA is working on a possible defense to issue #2 above.

Meetings:

- 1) Medicaid - Repair labor payment policy. **Next teleconference to be scheduled sometime between June 4th and 8th.** Watch your email for the date and time.

Below is a recap of this workgroup;

- a. 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



Education

Deb Holman

◆ Finally touches are being put on the 2012 MHHA Annual Conference. There is still time to get your registrations in and also to encourage the many companies you do business with to exhibit at the conference. There are many products and services to see as well as many great speakers and plenty of time to network with colleagues. ◆ MHHA has re-scheduled the 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 compaies. ◆ 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.

HME/Infusion Pharmacy

Matt Metzger & Julie Johnson

◆ **AAHomecare.** We continue to participate with AAHomecare in discussion regarding Market Pricing Program updates and audits. ◆ **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 will present the issues relating to the audit at the next Region B Council Meeting. We will provide an update at the Annual Conference. In addition, please report any issues regarding Payers that you believe may affect all members to Barry Cargill. While individual problems should be handled with individual carriers, you can certainly report any issues you believe we as a membership should address. ◆ **Next HME meeting** – The next HME Meeting will be held at the Annual Conference on Wednesday, May 23rd at 11:15 a.m. We will be hosting a guest speaker: Melanie Combs-Dyer, Deputy Director of the Provider Compliance Group, Office of Financial Management with CMS will be speaking about the Demonstration Project regarding Prior Authorization of Power Mobility Devices (PMDs).

Private Duty

Thomas Mann & Sheila Doeden

◆ The Private Duty Committee met on April 19, 2012 before Legislative Day. There were 10 members present and all stayed to participate in the Legislative Day activities. It was a very nice day with everyone engaged in the process. Discussion at the committee meeting focused on the talking points created for Legislative Day as many of the issues have a direct impact on the private duty industry. If you have not seen the talking points that MHHA has identified please contact the MHHA office. Auto No-Fault reform, licensure and the companionship exemption were topics of focus. As we are all well aware of these issues, there was a recommendation that the Private Duty Committee begin to review, discuss, and develop the issues that will impact the private duty industry regardless of the outcome of any potential reform in this area. This will help to support our cause when/if any reform occurs. This will be discussed further at the next committee meeting in Traverse City during the Annual Conference. ◆ The Annual Conference is this May in Traverse City. Please make every effort to be there! Private duty continues to be the fastest growing segment in home care, and with health care reform creating many opportunities for private duty organizations, the conference will help to provide you with the information and resources to stay in touch with the changes and opportunities on the horizon! ◆ Please remember that the May Private Duty Committee meeting is in Traverse City during the Annual Conference. There is no other May meeting.

PAC

Larry Treece

◆ Greetings to all PAC supporters. I want to report to you that we had a great time in Lansing on Legislative Day, April 19th. We had a good turnout from members of MHHA. It was nice to meet some of you face to face. The turnout numbers from Senators and Representatives was VERY good. We were able to talk our issues and thank them for supporting the programs that help children and adults stay at home. Overall the 2 hrs. was very busy but helpful to get the message out about Home Care. We asked for support on Licensure SB221 and opposition to HB 4935, auto no fault reform. I will see you in Traverse City at the Annual Meeting...please bring items for Silent Auction...and you will be happy to know Kelly Kendall will be there with me AGAIN this year to help out.



Clinical Operations

Shari Wilson & Donna Kleinschmit

◆ No Executive Director's Report as Barry Cargill was at the State Capitol for Legislative Day. ◆ Regulatory Updates: NGS and MDLARA scheduled to meet in May. * ◆ BCBSM to meet semi-annually; currently forwarding any questions. ◆ Regulatory/QI Committee to meet in June, following Clinical Operations. ◆ Sub-Committee Reports: IV Therapy/Infection Control completed revision of MHHA Infusion Policy/Procedure Manual utilizing the INS standards; sent to print and should be available in June. Psych Home Care - no-scheduled meetings at this time. Rehab Subcommittee had joint meeting last month; continue to work on therapy reassessments. Annual Conference - May 24 is Therapy Day, the agenda includes therapy topics. ◆ New Business: State Legislative Day today following this meeting. Members gathered for orientation in Room 405 of the Capitol Building at 10:30 A.M. ◆ Survey Report: One agency received TJC deemed survey with no citations but multiple suggestions "to assist the organization to take it to the next level." Second agency had TJC in December 2011 and then MDLARA in February. Findings: not tying up trash bag after wound care; missed HHA visit (only 1 and cited) new survey protocol "findings and not trends." Action plan and return visit went well. ◆ Agenda Additions: 1) cross check drop of RAP and OASIS submitted when policy reads lock in 7 days and submit within 30 days. To forward to Regulatory/QI Committee; 2) If F2F computerized then OK to use drop down boxes/State contacted. Is narrative necessary? What if developed in PCP office? To forward to NGS; 3) LSVT at MHHA Annual Conference in May. Interest in MHHA providing LSVT training at MHHA office for interested therapists in becoming certified. Forward to Ruth Benjamin to check interest at the Rehab Sub-Committee; 4) Reminder of Statewide Summit Reducing Avoidable Readmissions by Improving Care Transitions May 1, 2012 in Lansing; 5) HHCAPS - these questions have been shared with wstaff who then can focus on certain questions during their visit through the use of scripting. One agency developed a customer loyalty team; 6) From March 15th minutes, question to be submitted to MDLARA regarding comprehensive assessment within scope of physical therapy practice and COP to be able to assess the patient when another service is ordered, and if not then it nullifies the COP that states the therapist can admit; suggestion made to also, submit to NAHC attention Mary Carr or Mary St. Pierre. ◆ The next scheduled meeting will be held May 23, 2012 at the Annual MHHA Conference in Traverse City.

Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

◆ The Reimbursement Committee met by teleconference in Okemos on April 18, 2012. Please join us for the next meeting on site at 9:30 on June 20th. ◆ At the last meeting, there was continued discussion regarding 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. ◆ The new BCBSM reimbursement rates and payments continue to be a challenge for providers. Agencies will need to submit a cost report through 12/31/2011. Those with a June fiscal year end can file either a 6 month (July to Dec) or an entire year (July to June). ◆ 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 meeting scheduled on April 26th was cancelled. The next meeting will be in June. ◆ 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.

Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel & Michael Bartz

A big thank you to everyone involved in the MHHA Michigan Legislative Day, those who organized it and those who made it a success with their attendance. Over eighty legislators or staff members met with MHHA members. This was the most successful legislative day in MHHA's collective memory. On another topic, your executive committee approved MHHA joining with other provider groups in support of the Michigan plan to integrate the care provided to dual eligible beneficiaries. Also, as a result of the March on Washington in March, Barry is working with NAHC staff and Congressman Upton's office about the possibility of his willingness to sponsor another "dear colleague" letter on the topic of Face to Face. Stay tuned. As always, each of you is invited to join the Public Policy Meeting via telephone on the first Friday of every month at 10:00 am.



MHHA Newsletter Links of Interest

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

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

[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>

MHHA Committee Calendar

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) – May 23, 2012

[Board of Director's Meeting](#) – May 22, 2012

[HME Committee](#) – May 23, 2012

[Private Duty Committee Meeting](#)- May 23, 2012

Reimbursement Committee – No May Meeting

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – May 23, 2012

[Ethics Committee](#) –May 21, 2012

[Education Committee Meeting](#) – No May Meeting

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