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## Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



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### Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

◆ Welcome to September. I hope your summer was enjoyable and you are as excited as I am for fall to arrive. Most MHHA Committees have returned to their normal monthly schedules and we are looking forward to getting a lot done this month. ◆ In addition to reading the committee reports in this copy of the Bulletin, visit the MHHA EVENTS PAGE at [www.mhha.org](http://www.mhha.org) to learn where you can become active in your home care association. I firmly believe your involvement in MHHA is one of the best decisions you can make for your career and agency. Get involved and start in September. ◆ Just as our member agencies understand the importance of strategic planning, so does the MHHA Board of Directors. In October the Board will hold a day-long session to begin our process. MB Strategies was selected to serve as our facilitator and the Board is in agreement with the concept that strategic planning is not just a onetime thing, it is a continuous process. The membership participated in our stakeholder interviews last February which will be helpful to the process. Plan to hear more about the strategic direction of MHHA during the Annual Meeting held May 22, during the 2013 MHHA Annual Conference. ◆ With the elections drawing closer, I encourage everyone to go on-line to visit [www.bringinghomethevote.com](http://www.bringinghomethevote.com). This is MHHA's officially supported "Get out the Vote" campaign for the 2012 elections. Get to know the candidates, learn where they stand and educate them on the issues important to your agency. [www.bringinghomethevote.com](http://www.bringinghomethevote.com) is a resource that will help you educate your employees and patients to register to vote and engage with the candidates in asking them where they stand on home care issues. Home Care is facing unreasonable cuts to Medicare, potential new co-pays, and competitive bidding for HME. We all need to be more aware and get involved in the political process with the candidates of our choice. ◆ The MHHA Listserv has been very active in recent months and I am very appreciative of all of you who take the time to post questions and respond with comments and answers. It is a valuable benefit and available only to MHHA members. For anyone not on the listserv, you can register for the listserv for your membership category by sending an email to Cindy Thelen, MHHA Director for Membership Services, [Thelen.cindy@mhha.org](mailto:Thelen.cindy@mhha.org). Cindy will get you set up. If you have not made your first post on the listserv, try to do so in September and you will soon learn the important value this interaction will have for you and your agency.

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### Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

◆ The Rehab Committee did not meet in August. Next meeting: Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> with Clinical Ops at 9:30. Please send agenda items to Ruth at [ruth.benjamin@midmichigan.org](mailto:ruth.benjamin@midmichigan.org). Hope to see you there!

### Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

◆ Regulatory committee met on August 16, 2012. The entire meeting was spent reviewing CMS proposed rule. The members provided feedback both supporting some areas of the proposed rule and drafting concerns. The Rehab committee provided comments and examples of how the proposed rule will effect therapy services. The regulatory committee approved the rehab committee comments which will be placed in the MHHA comments for home health. The comment period ends September 4, 2012. . If you have not yet reviewed the proposed regulations it can be found at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-07-13/pdf/2012-16836.pdf> . The next Regulatory Meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012 after the Clinical Operations Committee at the MHHA Office.

### Education

Deb Holman

◆ The Education Committee is beginning to work on the 2013 MHHA Annual Conference which will be May 22-24, 2013 at the Grand Traverse Resort. Mark Your Calendars! ◆ Just as everyone is busy and back to a routine, so is MHHA's Educational Calendar. There are many opportunities happening this Fall. MHHA will be holding a Drivers Certification Program on September 22, 2012 at the MHHA office for those drivers of our HME companies. ◆ From member request, MHHA will also



be holding an Accreditation Vendor Showcase where MHHA members will be able to compare and contrast the 3 major accrediting bodies. Mark your calendars for September 27, 2012 at the MHHA Office for this exciting event. ♦ Also scheduled is an ICD-9 Coding workshop September 17-19<sup>th</sup> and an OASIS Workshop, October 31-November 2<sup>nd</sup>. With all the changes occurring with the Affordable Care Act, home care agencies need to be proactive and do things differently to be successful. To help with this, MHHA will be holding a start of a series of workshops that will assist agencies in doing business. On November 28, 2012 Abby Green will be presenting a workshop on Cost Calculation Modules and on December 11, 2012, National Experts, Bob Fazzi and Eileen Freitag will be presenting information on the Affordable Care Act. Both sessions will help agencies do their business better. 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. ♦ 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.

## Reimbursement

Chris Kisell & Amy Gil

♦ The Reimbursement Committee met in Okemos on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Please join us for the next meeting by teleconference at 9:30 on September 19<sup>th</sup>. ♦ Kayla Lowers from Medicaid was at the committee meeting to go over the Affordable Care Act and the implementation of the act by the State of Michigan. There was a great turnout in person as well as on the phone. We hope the information was beneficial. There was continued discussion regarding the dual eligible population and that Michigan would manage their own program. ♦ Agencies are to keep aware of the possibility of monetary sanctions for survey citations. ♦ We are still looking into getting speakers from Humana and the Cofinity Network to address reimbursement issues and questions. The billing meeting is scheduled in October. ♦ The Benchmarking results were emailed to the whole Reimbursement Committee and were also re-distributed at the meeting for discussion. ♦ 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](mailto: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](mailto:Agil@uhhs.org) or by phone at (734) 981-8820.

## Clinical Operations

Donna Kleinschmit

♦ The Clinical Operations Committee met on June 21, 2012 at the MHHA Office. ♦ Barry Cargill, MHHA Executive Director shared information from the Reimbursement Committee's renewed focus on reimbursement due to the ACA and proposed cuts. A representative from MDCH attended that meeting; slides from the presentation were the same as what was presented at MHHA's Annual Conference. Current implementation date for dual eligible is 7/1/2013; small population but a large amount of dollars. The State of MI will be managing the Medicare - Medicaid dollars for this population. Barry also shared that this being an election year, many issues will be discussed, including ACA, sequestration, etc. ♦ Bring Home the Vote is a resource for MHHA members to use in voting issue education of staff and patients. See [MHHA.org](http://MHHA.org) for more information. Members are welcome to add the link or the icon on their own website. ♦ Barry also shared MDCH Director Olga Dazzo resigned and James Haveman will replace her. ♦ Regulatory Update: NGS will meet September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> in New York. MDLRA will next meet September 9<sup>th</sup>; please forward questions to Paula Stopjik. BCBSM - Mike Hall from Metro working with Rose Zidzig, Manager Provider Relations regarding difference in payment for assessment and skilled visits. There continues to be a moratorium on new providers with BCBSM. Plan is to schedule another liaison meeting; please submit questions to MHHA. Regulatory Committee will be drafting response to proposed regulations. ♦ Sub-Committee Reports: members are encouraged to read the meeting minutes available on the MHHA website for more details. ♦ New Business: Meeting with Rae Ramsdell from MDLRA was held and nothing has changed regarding the CNAs renewal certification. ♦ Medicaid criteria: 1) Hospital date, 2) Homebound status (even though no need for homebound status), 3) Why home health is best, and 4) Environment. ♦ CMS Annual Region V meeting was held August 28 & 29. ♦ Education Committee feedback for another software vendor presentation and Fazzi's presentation on ACA, etc. requested and information will be forwarded to the Education Committee. ♦ Sharing Segment: Survey Reports shared with one agency experiencing a state survey and another a CLIA survey. Agenda additions included cell phones, staffing agencies, improvement in oral medications, and hospital readmissions in the news with over 2000 to be penalized beginning in October. OIG studies questionable billing practice of home health agencies handout shared. Brief update given from the Remington Conference held August 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. Ohio did a readmission (Fazzi) study from the home health perspective. ♦ Next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Rehab Subcommittee held September 20, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the MHHA Office.



## Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel

◆ MHHA Public Policy Committee meets via teleconference on the first Friday of each month. Next meeting is September 6th. All MHHA members are invited and encouraged to participate. You will get the latest political and policy information effecting home care and the opportunity to help set our policies and procedures. You also receive the weekly publication of "This Week in Lansing" produced by our lobbying firm, Muchmore, Harrington, Smalley and Associates. Contact Mary Pfeiffer at the MHHA offices [Pfeiffer.mary@mhha.org](mailto:Pfeiffer.mary@mhha.org) if you would like to be included on the Public Policy Committee.

## IV/Infection Control

Deb Opalowski & Rachel Aultman

◆ The Infection Control/IV Subcommittee last met on August 16. The group continues to work on revising the IV policy and procedure book to be in alignment with Intravenous Nursing Society (INS) standards of practice. ◆ If you have questions for the committee to address or would like to join please contact the MHHA office. The next meeting will be on September 20 directly following Clinical Ops.

## Hospice

Laura Bonde & Don Gillespie

◆ The Hospice committee met on Wednesday, September 5, 2012 at the MHHA offices. Among topics for discussion was MDLRA work with nursing home hospice patients as well as licensure for hospices in the state, and survey issues. Next month, we will be looking closer at Hospice Coding. ◆ Please join us at our next on site meeting, Wednesday, October 3, 2012.

## Ethics

Sue Clemen-Stone

◆ The Committee is actively recruiting for members for the committee. Attend a meeting to see what we are all about.  
◆ The Committee is beginning to work on programming for the 2013 Annual Conference in Traverse City. Due to the popular response at the 2012 Annual Conference, the focus will continue to be on clinical as well as business ethics. The Committee is looking for ideas on what you want to hear. Contact MHHA with your ideas before our next meeting, September 10, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## Membership

Tom Mann

◆ The Membership Committee is looking for new members. If you are a strategic thinker in your agency and interested in sharing and building your experience as a member of the MHHA Membership Committee, please contact myself (Tom Mann) at [tommann@med.umich.edu](mailto:tommann@med.umich.edu) or Barry Cargill at [Cargill.barry@mhha.org](mailto:Cargill.barry@mhha.org). The Membership the Committee will be taking a greater role in the strategic planning of the organization as well as evaluation of innovative new services and benefits. Participation on this Committee is open to all service line members. ◆ Help me welcome the following companies to the MHHA Family:

### Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc.

Contact: Brandie Uden

4700 Falls of Neuse Road #280

Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: 919/785-1214

Fax: 919/785-3011

E-mail: [bunden@achc.org](mailto:bunden@achc.org)

Associate Member - Certified

### Fausone Bohn, LLP

Contact: Tariq Hafeez

41700 West Six Mile Road #101

Northville, MI 48168

Phone: 248/380-9976

Fax: 248/380-3434

E-mail: [thafeez@fb-firm.com](mailto:thafeez@fb-firm.com)

Associate Member - Certified

### Great Lakes Home Health Care, Inc.

Contact: Bernard Lee

223 E. Third Street

Imlay City, MI 48444

Phone: 810/721-7301

Fax: 810/721-7302

E-mail: [bn11116@yahoo.com](mailto:bn11116@yahoo.com)

Regular Member - Certified

### Regional Home Care of Michigan, Inc.

Contact: Pamela Fahlbeck

Village Commons 69045, M-62, Suite E

Phone: 269-414-4261

Fax: 269/414-4261

E-mail: [pfahlbeck@elkharthomecare.com](mailto:pfahlbeck@elkharthomecare.com)

Regular Member - Certified

### The Joint Commission

Contact: Wayne Murphy

One Renaissance Blvd.

Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Phone: 630/792-5283

Fax: 630/792-4283

E-mail: [wmurphy@jointcommission.org](mailto:wmurphy@jointcommission.org)

Associate Member - Certified



## Private Duty

Sheila Doeden & Tom Mann

◆ Private Duty upcoming Events: Vendor Showcase September 27, Schedulers Day October 16. More event information at [www.mhha.org](http://www.mhha.org). ◆ CNA License Renewal-Meeting with Bureau of Health Professions regarding a statement issued and retracted. Some CNA's have been denied renewal of their license through Prometric. If denied, please resubmit to Prometric. There is a required new letter that must be sent on letter head to the Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs. MHHA continues to help members by inquiring about denials with the Department. Contact Barry Cargill at the MHHA office for assistance if you are having trouble with your CNA renewal [Cargill.barry@mhha.org](mailto:Cargill.barry@mhha.org). The Bureau assured the MHHA representatives that the policy was rescinded and the employee properly reprimanded. ◆ Through the representation of our lobbying firm, MHHA has focused on advancing legislation to license home care agencies to help combat the fraud and abuse that is becoming more serious every year. Talk about the Licensing Bill continues. On August 21 there was a Task Force Meeting held in Lansing. There are continued discussions and work groups that MHHA is very active with NPDA and other State Representatives.





## MHA Newsletter Links of Interest

[Hospice Education: End Stage Liver Disease](#) - September 11, 2012

[The Aide's Role in Building Trust and Maintaining Client Dignity](#) - September 13, 2012

[ICD-9 Coding Workshop and Testing - Intermediate and Advanced](#) - September 17-19, 2012

[Delivery Tech Certification Workshop](#) - September 22, 2012

[Accreditation Vendor Showcase](#) - September 27, 2012

[Hospice Education: Failure to Thrive in the Hospice Patient](#) - October 2, 2012

[The Aide's Role in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder](#) - October 11, 2012

[Blueprint for OASIS Accuracy Workshop](#) - October 31- November 2, 2012

Visit Cost Calculation Workshop - November 28, 2012 (registration material will be available soon)

Affordable Care Act Workshop with Bob Fazzi - December 11, 2012 (registration material will be available soon)

### *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>

## MHA Committee Calendar

Hospice Committee Meeting – September 5, 2012

[Board of Director's Meeting](#) – September 13, 2012

[HME Committee Teleconference](#) – September 17, 2012

[Private Duty Committee Teleconference](#) – September 18, 2012

[Reimbursement Committee Teleconference](#) – September 19, 2012

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) – September 20, 2012

[Education Committee Meeting](#) – September 13, 2012

[Public Policy Teleconference](#) – September 7, 2012

[Regulatory Committee](#) – September 20, 2012

[Rehab SubCommittee](#) – September 20, 2012

[IV/ Infection Control](#) – September 20, 2012