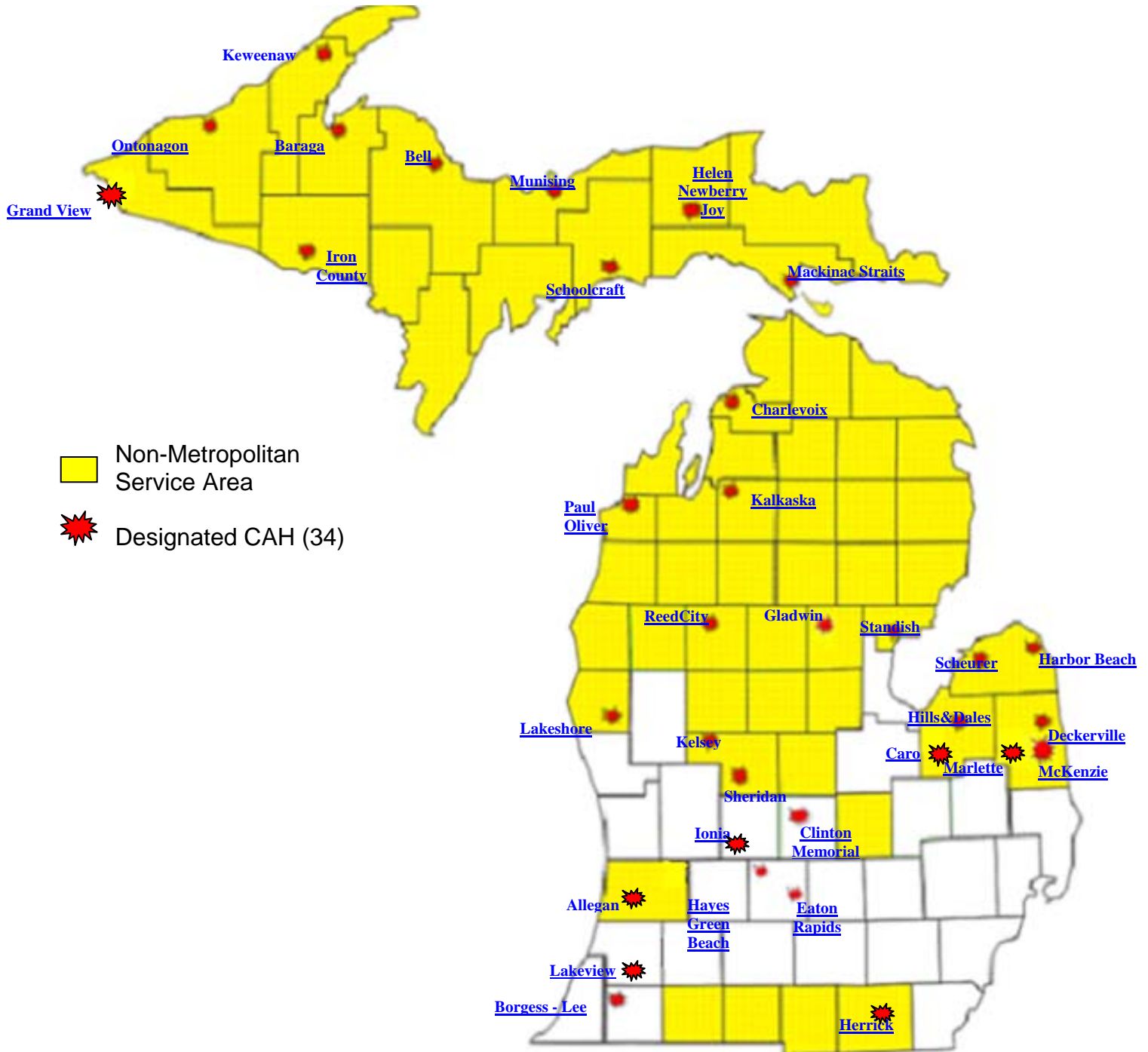


CAH Chronicle



Michigan Department of Community Health ♦ Michigan Center for Rural Health ♦ Michigan Health & Hospital Association

MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Program Helps Frail Rural Elderly Live at Home

Following the deaths of her husband two years ago and her mother in January, Sarah Akers added acute depression to a lengthy list of health problems. Akers couldn't live alone without assistance and she didn't want to enter a nursing home. Akers, 64, found her answer in [PACE](#) (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly). PACE is a national program that allows frail adults 55 and older who need nursing home care to stay in their own homes with assistance from PACE services.

[Mountain Empire Older Citizens](#) (MEOC), whose headquarters are in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, five miles from Akers' home, is among the first five rural grantees to begin PACE programming following Congress's approval in 2006 of the Rural PACE Provider Grant Program. Congress awarded \$500,000 each to 15 grantees in 13 states.

Under PACE, MEOC contracts with Medicare and Medicaid to provide a broad range of health and social services. MEOC receives a set amount of payment for each PACE enrollee with the Medicare capitation rate adjusted according to each enrollee's frailty. MEOC expects to enroll about 50 PACE patients this year, eventually reaching a level of 180 to 200 participants.



Donna Mahon, activities director for the Mountain Empire PACE program, leads a group exercise.

Aides visit Akers at home five days a week to assist her with bathing, dressing and light housekeeping. PACE provides light breakfast items that Akers eats at home and the PACE bus transports Akers to the PACE center for meals three days a week.

An interdisciplinary team develops an individualized plan of care for each patient in Mountain Empire PACE. The team includes a wide range of professionals who assess the individual's ability to live at home and provide that person with necessary tools and assistance. PACE staff also make appointments, arrange transportation and coordinate care with specialists.

A full-time PACE physician sees participants and admits and follows them if they need hospital or nursing home care. Participants can see the doctor whenever they want.

PACE capitation funding meets needs not traditionally covered under Medicare or Medicaid. For instance, MEOC has provided at-home preventative solutions such as grab bars in bathrooms and automatic door closers for patients in wheelchairs.

Congress authorized permanent provider status for PACE programs in 1997. Those programs have served predominantly urban settings. Yet one-fifth of the nation's elderly live in rural areas, according to Peter Fitzgerald, PACE vice president of strategic initiatives. The rural elderly report worse health status, are generally older, have more functional limitations, are more likely to live alone at age 75 and older, are more likely to be poor or near poor, and are at greater risk of being placed in a nursing home.

[The National PACE Association](#) (NPA) and the [National Rural Health Association](#) were awarded the contract to implement the Rural PACE Technical Assistance Program (RP-TAP) from the Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration. RP-TAP has produced resources for and provided technical assistance to organizations interested in developing a PACE program to serve rural areas.

More information about PACE is available at the [NPA web site](#) and at NPA's web site on [Rural PACE Resources](#). Providers interested in RP-TAP can contact Peter Fitzgerald at 703-535-1521.

Facts About Nursing Homes

- By 2026, the population of Americans ages 65 and older will double to 71.5 million.
- Among people turning 65 today, 69 percent will need some form of long-term care, whether in the community or in a residential care facility.
- There are more than 1.4 million nursing home residents in the United States.
- An individual's average age when he or she moves into a nursing home is 79.
- Women are almost three times more likely to live in nursing homes than men.
- There are 16,100 certified nursing homes in the United States.
- The average daily cost for a private room in a nursing home is \$213 or \$77,745 annually.
- The average daily cost for a semi-private room in a nursing home is \$189 or \$68,985 annually.
- Medicaid payments cover the care of more than half of all nursing home residents.
- Overall, nearly 96,000 full-time equivalent nurses and other health care professionals are now needed to fill vacant positions in America's nursing homes.
- By 2010, the number of vacant positions in nursing homes is expected to reach 810,000.

Source:

http://www.aahsa.org/aging_services/default.asp?General_Facts

New Marlette Regional Hospital CEO, Gregory Roraff, FACHE

Marlette Regional Hospital (MRH) is pleased to announce that Gregory E. Roraff, FACHE has joined the Hospital leadership team as Chief Executive Officer. Roraff brings extensive experience in executive leadership in healthcare organizations throughout the Midwest. Most recently, he served as Chief Executive Officer at Memorial Health Center in Medford, Wisconsin and prior to that, he served in the same capacity at Brim Health Care – Powell Hospital & Nursing Home in Powell, Wyoming and Swift County Benson Hospital in Benson, Minnesota.

Greg has a B.A. in Business from the University of Wisconsin, is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and has been very active with the Wisconsin Hospital Association. He also has been active in various civic clubs. Join us in welcoming Greg to Michigan's CAH family.



Rural Assistance Center (RAC) Funding Searches: Helping You Find Funding Sources

Are you looking to fund a new project? Do you need capital funding for hospital renovations? Are you looking for statistics to support your grant application?

The Rural Assistance Center can help you:

- Find funding opportunities
- Locate resources using RAC's information guides, news and listserv
- Determine if your location meets the rural eligibility requirement for certain funding programs
- Find statistics, research and maps to support your grant applications

RAC can help you locate funding sources in rural topic areas including:

- Emergency Medical Services—equipment and training
- Telemedicine—connection service, training, construction, equipment
- Hospital renovation and expansion—including new equipment
- Program addressing childhood obesity
- Literacy program for a non-for-profit agency
- Loan repayment programs for health professionals
- Domestic violence prevention
- Faith-based food bank
- Infrastructure for a town—water tower, water wells, street repairs

- Dental health services
- Wellness center—building, equipment, and programming
- Transportation programs

Find funding opportunities

You can view summaries of funding programs available to rural communities on the RAC web site in the following ways:

- [Browse by Topic](#) the program addresses (Housing, Health Research, etc.)
- [Browse by Sponsor](#) (Administration on Aging, Commonwealth Fund, etc.)
- [Browse by State](#) for funding opportunities available to limited geographic areas

Locate resources using RAC's information guides, RSS feeds and listserv

Information guides

[Funding](#) is a guide with many resources including web sites, organizations, journals, and documents related to funding. [Capital Funding](#) is defined as funding used to expand or renovate a building, purchase major equipment or construct a new facility. It is important that facilities consider and use a variety of potential funding sources, including public grants and loan programs, as well as private sources such as foundations and donations from local residents.

[Grant writing](#) is the process of applying for funding in support of a project that provides a social good. Grants may be sought to begin a new activity, to support ongoing operations, to make capital improvements, to purchase needed equipment and supplies, and for other purposes that support a project.

[Health Education Financial Aid](#) can help you locate grants, loans, fellowships, scholarships and loan repayment programs available to health professionals who agree to practice in rural, underserved areas.

RSS Feeds

on the RAC web site, funding announcements are added daily Monday-Friday and you can use RSS feeds to receive them using a newsreader. To receive the feed for federal and foundation funding programs, add the following URL to your newsreader: <http://www.raconline.org/rss/funding.xml>.

You may also want to view of list of feeds focused on specific funding topics: [RSS Feeds for Funding by Topic](#)

For more information about RSS feeds please see: <http://www.raconline.org/rss/>.

Listserv

You also may want to sign up for the RAC listserv to receive twice-monthly e-mail notices about new funding opportunities. You can subscribe at:

<http://www.raconline.org/listserv/>.

Determine if your location meets the rural eligibility requirement for certain funding programs

The [Am I Rural?](#) service can be used to help determine whether a specific location is considered rural based on various definitions of rural, including definitions that are used as eligibility criteria for certain federal programs. The grant programs currently covered by [Am I Rural?](#) include:

- Office of Rural Health Policy Grant Programs
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Rural Health Clinics status
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Medicare Telemedicine Reimbursement

If you are interested in applying for one of these programs, you can check whether your location is eligible by entering the address in the [Am I Rural?](#) service. Most programs have additional requirements you will also need to meet to be eligible. Your "Am I Rural?" report is not a guarantee of your eligibility status. Please check with the program contacts directly to verify your eligibility for specific federal programs.

Find statistics, research and maps to support your grant applications

In addition to the information guides listed above, which addresses funding directly, the Rural Assistance Center has other [information guides](#) on a variety of topics that can be used to support grant writing. In particular, the [Statistics and Data](#) information guide and the [Maps](#) information guide include many useful links.

Maps can be an effective way to illustrate the needs facing your community. The [RAC Maps](#) section provides national maps addressing a variety of health and human services topics. Maps can be customized to focus on a specific state or county and to show additional data, labels and boundaries. More mapping options are available through the [Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems](#).

If you have a funding need and you would like us to do a custom search, RACONLINE would be happy to help.

Please contact us at the Rural Assistance Center, toll free, (800) 270-1898, or email info@raconline.org

Medical Offices and Clinics Pandemic Influenza Planning Checklist

A checklist to help you determine the strengths and weaknesses of your current pandemic influenza plans is now available on the MCRH website under the new OPHP (Office of Public Health Preparedness) link. The checklist and additional information can also be found at: www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/medofficesclinics.pdf

SAVE THESE DATES

2008 Quality EXPO – October 30, 2008

Radisson Plaza Hotel at the Kalamazoo Center, Kalamazoo, MI. For more information and to register, visit: www.mpro.org/qualityexpo

2008 CAH Conference -Nov. 6-7, 2008

Mountain Grand Lodge Resort Boyne Falls, MI

GRAND ROUNDS:

PHARMACY

Date: October 14, 2008

Time: 12:00 NOON – 1:00 pm EST

Pain Management – Terry Baumann, PharmD

Sponsored by: Michigan Center for Rural Health, Marquette General Health System and Upper Peninsula Telehealth Network

Continuing Education: for pharmacists pending.

ARTHRITIS

Held the second Wednesday of each month from Noon to 1:00 pm except in July and August.

Sponsored by: The Michigan Center for Rural Health and the Michigan Arthritis Collaborative Partnership.

2008 Schedule

- October 8-Psoriatic Arthritis- Robert Ike, MD

Accreditation: St. Mary Mercy Hospital, an organization accredited by the MSMS Committee on CME Accreditation, designates that this activity meets the criteria for a maximum of one (1) credit hour in Category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award.

GERIATRIC

Held the first Wednesday of each month from Noon to 1:00 pm except July and August.

Sponsored by: The Michigan Center for Rural Health and the Geriatric Education Center of Michigan.

2008 Schedule

- September 3 – ACOVE Quality Indicators in Primary Care Mark Ensberg, MD & Linda Keilman, MSN, APRN, BC, GNP
- October 1 – Oral Health in the Elderly Elisa Ghezzi, DDS
- November 5 – Health Literacy in the Elderly Marolee Neuberger, MS
- December 3 – Telemedicine and Remote Monitoring Pam Whitten, PhD

Accreditation: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Michigan Center for Rural Health.

Geriatric Grand Round Program Accredited for Social Workers

In an effort to provide more continuing education contact hours for social workers the upcoming November 5th Geriatric Grand Round on Health Literacy has been cross-accredited. This program will be presented via videoconference/teleconference and is also CME accredited.

Accreditation: This program is approved by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative for 1 CE Clock Hours. Course approval is # 071708-10

For More Information: contact Phyllis Ball at (517) 355-8250 or ballp@msu.edu.

NURSING

Held quarterly from Noon to 1:00 pm

Sponsored by: The Michigan Center for Rural Health and MSU College of Nursing

- Sept. 16 – Partners in Health: Group visit Concept for chronic Diseases, Kathy Dontje, MSN, FNP, BC & Kathy Forrest, RN, BSN, MA
- November 18 – TBD

Accreditation: Participants who attend the entire session and complete an evaluation form will receive a certificate for 1.5 contact hours. Michigan State University College of Nursing is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Michigan Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

PSYCHIATRY

Held quarterly from Noon to 1:00 pm

Sponsored by: The Michigan Center for Rural Health and the MSU Department of Psychiatry.

2008 Schedule

- October 22-Managing Bipolar Disorder Through the Life Span: Dale D'Mello, MD

Accreditation: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and the Michigan Center for Rural Health.

SOCIAL WORK

Held quarterly from noon – 1:15 pm

Sponsored by: The Michigan Center for Rural Health and the MSU School of Social Work

2008 Schedule

- September 18 – TBD
- November 5 – Health Literacy in the Elderly, Marolee Neuberger, MS
Cross Accreditation Program for Social Workers –Geriatric Grand Round
Videoconference/Teleconference. In an effort to provide more continuing education opportunities for social workers, continuing education contact hours are currently pending for this Geriatric Grand Round Program.
- November 20 – TBD

Accreditation: Michigan State University School of Social Work (Provider No. 1136) is approved by the Association of Social Work boards (ASWB) approved continuing Education (ACE) program: www.aswb.org: 1-800-335-6880. ASWB ACE-approved programs are recognized in Michigan. In addition, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana recognize ACE-approved providers. Social workers should verify recognition of ACE approval with their state boards.

EMS TELECONFERENCES

Quarterly 6:00-7:00 pm

Sponsored by the Michigan Association of Ambulance

- September 11– "Does He Have Gas? Assessing Shortness of Breath utilizing Capnography", David Maatman, NREMT-P/IC, CCEMT-P

For additional information or questions about materials contained in this newsletter, please contact:

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www.com.msu.edu/micrh

- November 14- TBD

For more information, contact Phyllis Ball, Education Coordinator at: ballp@msu.edu or 517-355-8250.



“Lipid Management”

You are invited to attend a conference call about “Lipid Management” led by Thomas E. Kottke, MD, MSPH, Medical Director for Evidence-Based Health, HealthPartners, Senior Clinical Investigator, HealthPartners Research Foundation in Minnesota.

Speaker presentation will be available to download approximately 1 week prior to the call at <http://glrsn.uic.edu>.

Date: September 18, 2008
Time: Noon CT /1:00 pm ET
Presentation Time: Approximately 45 minutes
Discussion Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Dial In Number: 877-681-3378 Pass code: GWTG

Recommended audience: Stroke program managers and nurses, primary care physician office staff, neurology office staff

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the discussion, the participant will be able to

1. Describe the study design, results, limitations and implications of the SPARCL study.
2. Describe 2 interventions that can be used with patients ready for discharge that increase adherence to long-term medication needs
3. Describe the relative contribution of adherence to prescribed therapies after the acute event to long-term outcomes in cardiovascular disease.

Email gwtg@heart.org with your name, address, phone number, and email to register. In order to receive nursing CEU credits, participants must register and include the above required information, participate on the call and complete the online evaluation.

Questions? Please contact Angela Bray Hedworth at hedworth@uic.edu.

**Oakton Community College, Alliance for Lifelong Learning, Continuing Education for Health Professionals is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*



ATTENTION: HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Help Us, Help You!!

Go to www.midwesttrc.org to fill out a survey on continuing education delivery.

The Midwest Alliance for Health Education, a non-profit agency, is conducting a survey to determine continuing education options, the emerging needs, preferred way of access and the reasons behind it all! We want to give you what you want and need!

INTERESTING QUOTE:

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."

Milton Berle