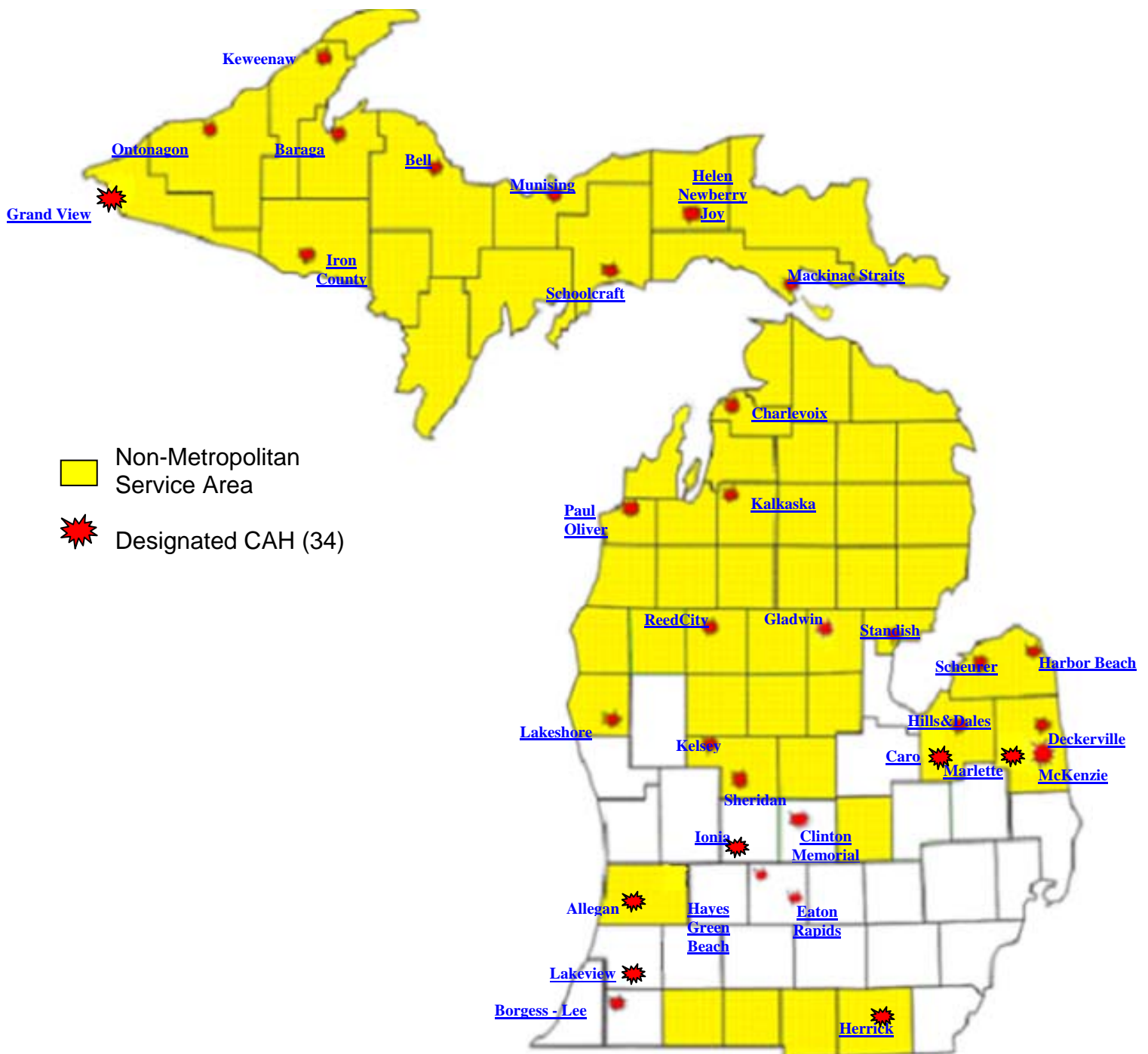




CAH Chronicle

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

MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Michigan OsteoCHAMPS Rural Scholarship Program

OsteoCHAMPS is an innovative pre-college enrichment program to help capable young high school students pursue careers in nursing, allied health and medicine. To participate in OsteoChamps a community identifies a 11th or 12th grade student who has displayed a high interest in the health care field. The student spends two-weeks in a structured environment on the campus of Michigan State University. While on campus with tutors and mentors the student studies biology, anatomy, and chemistry. In addition to improving their knowledge of science they enhance their study skills, increase motivation, and develop leadership qualities. The cost of this two-week program is \$2,000 per student. Now in its eighth year, nearly all OsteoChamps alumni attend college and most have chosen a health career.

Beginning in April at the 12th Annual Rural Health Conference in Mt. Pleasant the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) will use \$100 from each exhibitor fee to create the OsteoCHAMPS Rural Scholarship Program. It is the MCRH intent to increase the number of rural students attending the OsteoChamps Program. This will be a matching scholarship fund, i.e. an identified rural high school student will need to match the \$1,000 scholarship through community fund raising, a local Kiwanis match, etc. We believe a "buy-in" is essential for the success of this program.

Additionally, the MCRH will repeat this exhibitor scholarship contribution at the Annual CAH conference. It is our intent, with your assistance, to provide four annual scholarships to rural high school students each summer.

History: The OsteoCHAMPS program was established in 2000, initially with the Ethylene Crockett Vocational/Technical High School in Detroit, to encourage, prepare, and foster the health career interests of disadvantaged high school students. The program now partners with several schools and foundations in various communities of Michigan, as well as private and public agencies, toward fulfilling its objectives.

OsteoCHAMPS summer PREcollege Enrichment Program (PREP): The PREP program is a two-week intensive residential program on the MSU campus for selected 11th and 12th grade students. The program includes an intensive instruction in pre-college science curriculum, as well as non-academic enrichment services and activities, including:

Anatomy, Physiology and Chemistry
Mathematics and Writing
Learning and Test-Taking Skills
Computer Science and Research

History of Osteopathic Medicine
Structural Examination Demonstration
Physical Examination Skills
Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

Social activities are focused on providing interaction with health professionals; and interacting with MSUCOM students (Big Sibs), MSU 4-H community services and participants from other communities.

If you interested in learning about this program or the Scholarship Program please contact: Steve Shotwell at 517-355-7758 or steve.shotwell@hc.msu.edu.

National Health Service Corp Loan Repayment Update

On February 17, 2009, the President signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). Three hundred million dollars is slated for the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) loan repayment program. With this additional funding and the short timetable to disburse it, the NHSC will be awarding an additional \$220 million over the next 18 months; \$24 million in medical scholarship awards and \$196 million in loan repayment awards.

The time is now to seek approval for your primary care clinics. The provider applications are scheduled to be available in April. Qualifying providers in the following specialties are encouraged to apply:

- Allopathic or osteopathic physician specializing in family medicine, general pediatrics, general internal medicine, general psychiatry, or obstetrics/gynecology
- Primary care nurse practitioner
- Primary care physician assistant
- Certified nurse-midwife

- Dentist
- Dental hygienist
- Mental or behavioral health professional (health service psychologist, clinical social worker, licensed professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, and psychiatric nurse specialist)

If you have any questions, please contact: Steve Shotwell at steve.shotwell@hc.msu.edu or 517-355-7758.

Michigan State Loan Repayment Program Update

The Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) provides loan repayment assistance to medical, dental and mental health care professionals who enter into MSLRP service obligations requiring they provide full-time, primary health care services for two to four years at eligible, not-for-profit practice sites, located in Michigan Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs).

MSLRP Funding Status: ALERT!

As part of extensive efforts required to balance the State's FY 2010 budget, \$1,090,800 of state and federal MSLRP program funds have been removed from the Executive Recommendation for the Department of Community Health's budget. If funding is restored, MSLRP will continue with plans to award between 40 and 50 loan repayment contracts requiring only 20% employer contributions. If, however, funds are not restored, the program will be limited to awarding significantly fewer contracts requiring 50% employer contributions.

The MSLRP program suggests that employers encourage their providers to submit their MSLRP application packages by the May 31, 2009 deadline, while at the same time conveying to state and local officials the importance of this program. Future MSLRP Updates will include any changes in the program's funding status.

Post Your Job Opportunities at Eligible Practice Sites on the MSLRP Website: www.michigan.gov/mslrp

Providers inquiring about loan repayment often also ask which employers have current job opportunities at MSLRP-eligible practice sites. To further assist provider job search and employer recruitment efforts, we are implementing the "Job Opportunity Listing" on the MSLRP Website at no cost to providers or employers. Employers can use this recruitment tool to attract providers during their peak interest in loan repayment.

Simply follow the instructions for completing and submitting the attached Job Opportunity Listing Request form.

FY 2010 January- May 2009 Application Period:

To be considered for 20% Employer Contribution Competitive Contracts, providers must submit their complete application packages postmarked no later than May 31, 2009. Please visit the MSLRP Update, posted January 6, 2009 at: www.michigan.gov/mslrp for details on the 20% Employer Contribution Competitive Contracts, expanded mental health care provider policy and new contract selection criteria and rules for applying to re-contract with the program.

FY 2009 First-Come, First-Served Application Period Remains Open:

Funds remain available for Sign-On Bonus and Provider Retention Loan Repayment Contracts, requiring a 50% employer contribution. We will continue to award these contracts on a first-come first-served basis, regardless of priority status, until all funds are committed. These contracts may begin as early as the first of the month following eligibility determination and employment. Please see the MSLRP Update, posted January 6, 2009 on the MSLRP Website for details. Funding for these contracts is not affected by the current budget situation.

Please consider forwarding this e-mail to your members, providers and other organizations that may benefit from this information.

If you have questions on how to take advantage of these opportunities contact Ken Miller at MillerK3@michigan.gov or 517 241-9946.

College of Nursing Receives more than \$1.1 Million from Michigan Nursing Corps to Educate Students

The College of Nursing at Michigan State University will receive more than \$1.1 million from the Michigan Nursing Corps which is supported by the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Labor & Economic Growth. The grants, administered by the Office of the Chief Nurse Executive, aim to address the critical shortage of nursing faculty, enhance the nursing workforce in Michigan, and accelerate degree completion of graduate students.

The three grants awarded to the College of Nursing will increase the number of nurse faculty available to educate nurses in Michigan by providing financial support to students in the College's masters and doctoral programs. Students in the Accelerated Second Degree Bachelor of Science (BSN) concentration laid off from jobs in Michigan will also receive aid.

In exchange for the financial support, graduate students will sign contracts to teach in Michigan nursing education programs for at least five years. Recipients of the Accelerated Second Degree BSN grants must sign an agreement to practice in a Michigan hospital or healthcare institution for no less than five years.

The educational programs supported through the Michigan Nursing Corps grants include:

- Doctor of Philosophy: \$744,200 for students who will complete the degree within two years.
- Master of Science in Nursing with Nursing Education Concentration: \$299,000 to support students who will complete the program in one year.
- Accelerated Second Degree BSN: \$82,500 for students who were laid off from jobs in Michigan and who will complete the program in one year.

The State of Michigan is experiencing an exponential shortage of both nurses and nurse educators. With Michigan's unemployment rate reaching 11.6 percent it is crucial to invest in employment opportunities. This initiative created through the Michigan Nursing Corps helps combat the critical shortage of nurse educators in the State of Michigan while investing in job growth.

Due to the insufficient number of faculty, thousands of qualified students are turned away or placed on program waiting lists. The College of Nursing at Michigan State University is committed to educating nurse educators for the State of Michigan. **Source:** MSU Healthbeat March 2009.

Michigan State Doctors Provide "Virtual" Psychiatric Care to Rural Areas

Several doctors from Michigan State University, in the colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and Human Medicine in East Lansing, have developed a program to bring psychiatric care to rural Michigan patients. The therapy is provided "virtually," by means of video teleconferencing over secure internet protocols.

Dr. Jed Magen, chairperson and associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, spoke with DOTmed about this innovative service in rural health care. Dr. Magen explained that a rural mental health care agency/worker schedules the appointments with one of the six participating physicians; the physicians in the program then conduct the therapy from their offices or a studio, and a community mental health care worker arranges for the patient to be in an office with video equipment, convenient to his or her residence. Doctor and patient see and Dr. Jed Magen speak to each other through the video teleconferencing technology. The evaluations and records are later sent to the rural agency.



Dr. Jed Magen

The service is addressing a serious need in the rural Michigan area. "There are actually large numbers of patients, children and adolescents, with either no providers available or having to travel long distances for treatment," Dr. Magen said. Too often, lack of access to available care leaves families and children without

options for mental health treatment. In addition, the current hard times economically may lead to more incidences of psychiatric troubles. Technologically assisted therapy is a necessity, Dr. Magen observes, especially for child psychiatry.

The program has been very successful thus far, Dr. Magen reports. While not quite the same as being face to face, it's pretty close. "Really, you can do anything that can be done in a face to face interview." The patient is assisted by a health care worker with the technology, but if he or she prefers to be alone during the actual therapy the worker leaves, ensuring the same levels of privacy of a face to face session. "Patient acceptance is terrific."

Such technology is being utilized in other areas of medicine as well, Dr. Magen told DOTmed. Video teleconferencing is also used educationally, for example residents who have elective rotations may use it for lectures. Dr. Magen is also working on using the technology with medical colleagues in Africa for psychiatric treatment of children, a population in much need of medical and mental health care. A number of other states, such as South Carolina, are using this technology for treating correctional facility inmates.

MSU's program commenced about three years ago and has now reached capacity, making it a leader in the state and one of the most active in the Midwest. Doctors treat a variety of psychiatric ailments.

Source: DOTmed News

Rural Health Clinic Survey 2008 is On-Line

It has been ten years since a statewide survey of Michigan's certified rural health clinics was completed. In 2008 the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH), in collaboration with the Michigan Rural Health Clinic Organization, funded by a grant from the Michigan Rural Health Association (MRHA) developed a survey instrument designed to capture the status of certified rural health clinics in Michigan.

The purpose of the survey was to collect data on specific information regarding:

- 1) Administrative/Physical Plant
- 2) Billing, Fee and Provider type
- 3) Technology

Additional data were collected on services offered, and the RHC workforce. The data are presented in a format that can be useful to Michigan's residents, health care providers and policy makers.

In order to view the 2008 Michigan Rural Health Clinic Survey on-line please visit the Michigan Center for Rural Health Website: <http://www.mcrh.msu.edu/>

A hardcopy of the survey will be available at the 12th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference in Mt. Pleasant, April 23-24. We hope to see you there.

The Michigan Center for Rural Health thanks all of the certified RHC's that participated in the study. Thank you to everyone that took the time to collect the data, complete the survey and submit it to us.

HHS Launches New Office of Recovery Act Coordination Department Has Distributed More than \$3 Billion in Recovery Act Funds

The Department of Health and Human Services has announced the creation of the Office of Recovery Act Coordination. The Office will help ensure the timely, organized and transparent distribution of an estimated \$137 billion in Recovery Act Funds managed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Dennis Williams will lead the new office and serve as HHS' Deputy Assistant Secretary for Recovery Act Coordination. Mr. Williams has served in the department for more than 20 years in offices including the Health Resources Services Administration and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget.

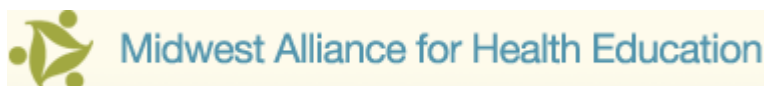
The Department of Health and Human Services has distributed \$3 billion in Recovery Act funds as of March 11, 2009, to support a variety of policies and programs including Community Health Centers and Medicaid.

The activities described in this release are being funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). To track the progress of HHS activities funded through the ARRA, visit www.hhs.gov/recovery. To track all federal funds provided through the ARRA, visit www.recovery.gov. Source: Rural Assistance Center Update

HRSA Office of Women's Health

HRSA Office of Women's Health is pleased to share their new HTML (Bright Futures for Women's Health and Wellness (BFWHW), Physical Activity and Healthy Eating Tools for Rural Young Women and for Adult Women. The Adult Women's Tools include a booklet and a set of 10 Tip Sheets. The Young Women's Tools include a booklet and a bookmark. All tools are based on the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. To access the HTML links, please go to <http://www.hrsa.gov/womenshealth> and scroll down to the Bright Futures for Women's Health and Wellness section.

Free print copies of these and other BFHW tools are available through the HRSA Information Center at 1-888-ASK-HRSA or <http://ask.hrsa.gov/>



A series of diabetes programs will be available over the next few months on the website: www.midwesthealthed.org. Register and attend a diabetes webinar.

March topic: Unraveling label reading -available for registration April topic: Diabetes 101- available for registration
May: Deciphering diets

June: Insulin

FREE Continuing education credits for nurses and dietitians.

Any questions or comments: Call 1-866-603-4733 or email:

info@midwesthealthed.org

Michigan Rural Health Conference
April 23-24, 2009
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Mt. Pleasant, MI

Conference information and registration is on line at:
www.mcrh.msu.edu/



GRAND ROUNDS:

PHARMACY

ARTHRITIS

GERIATRIC

NURSING

PSYCHIATRY

SOCIAL WORK

EMS TELECONFERENCES

A full description of all Grand Rounds presentations are at:

www.mcrh.msu.edu/ and click on Grand Rounds.

For more information on any of the Grand Round education sessions, contact Phyllis Ball, Education Coordinator at: ballp@msu.edu or 517-355-8250.

INTERESTING QUOTE:

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

- *William Butler Yeats*

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

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