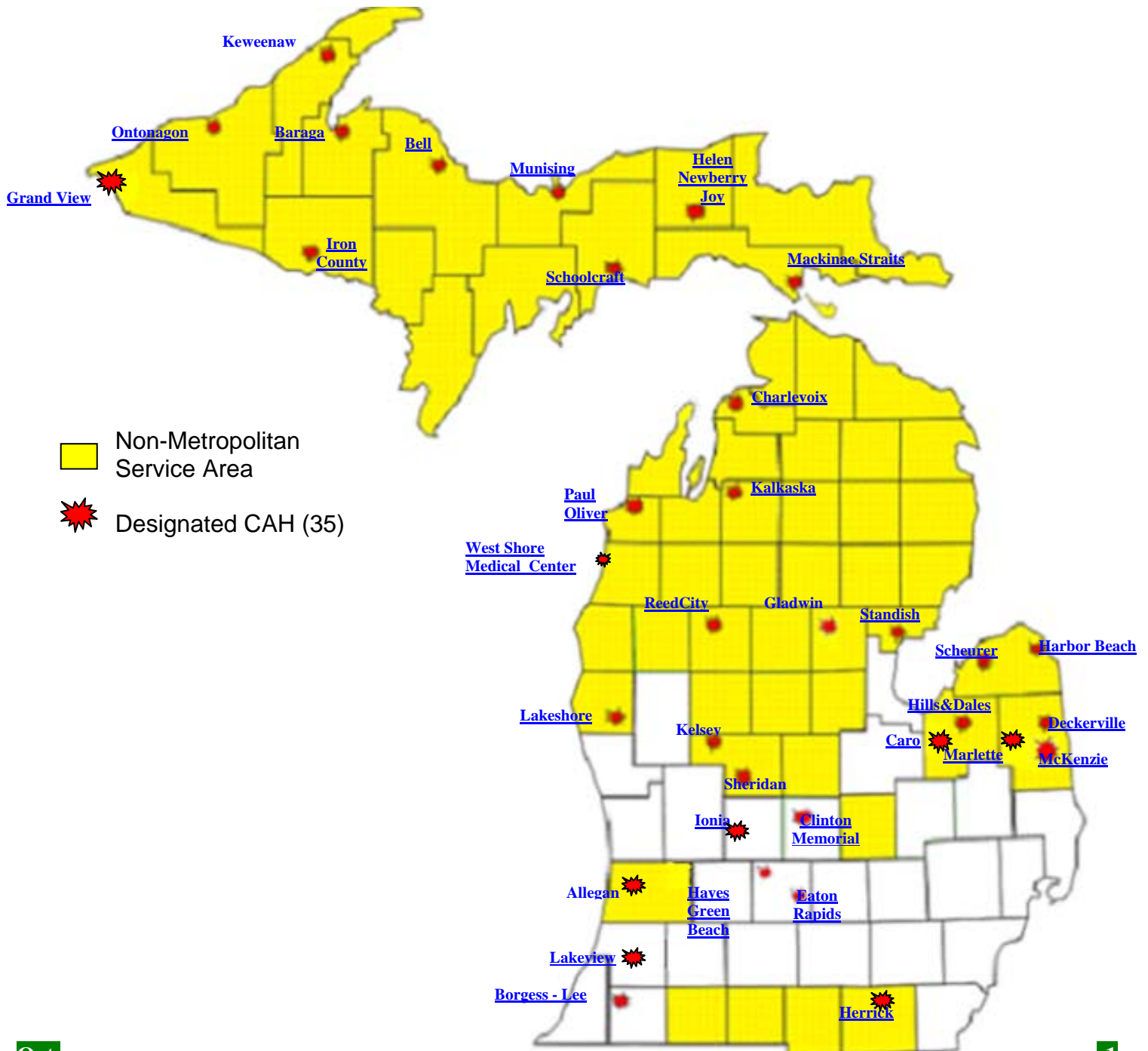




CAH Chronicle

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

MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Bruun Receives 2009 MHA Health Care Leadership Award

Ed Bruun, CEO at Clinton Memorial Hospital (CMH) in St. John’s has received The Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) 2009 MHA Health Care Leadership Award. Ed was nominated for the award by Dave Hunt, CMH Board of Directors Chairman.

The MHA Health Care Leadership Award recognizes Bruun’s success as a leader. With his guidance the hospital has built an exceptional leadership team, recruited new physicians, improved reimbursement, increased use of existing services, and earned key quality measures that exceed national benchmarks.

Baraga County Memorial Hospital

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development will insure a \$28.3-million loan to replace an Upper Peninsula hospital.

The mortgage loan to Baraga County Memorial Hospital in L’Anse is being made through the Federal Housing Administration’s Section 242 Hospital Mortgage Insurance Program and will go toward a new 71,000-square-foot facility with 15 acute care beds, a retail pharmacy and an attached outpatient center. The construction project will support 103 full-time jobs.

HUD says the existing hospital was constructed in 1969 and is ill-suited for the volume of outpatient traffic and doesn’t provide adequate space for new inpatient technology and services.

The loan allows the hospital to obtain low-cost financing, saving an estimated \$43.8 million in interest expense over the life of the loan. *Source: Detroit Free Press 10.16.09.*

Healthy Lifestyles at Bell Memorial

Bell Hospital in Ishpeming *Bells Buddies Youth Wellness Umbrella* is multi-faceted approach to childhood healthy lifestyles. Virtually every aspect of a child’s health is addressed maximizing healthcare resources and tailoring care to each child’s needs.

The *Bell Buddies Fit Program* is element of Bell Hospital’s *Youth Wellness Umbrella*. *Bell Fit Kids* is a Saturday morning program that combines group and individual exercise aimed at addressing the inactivity related health issues that have grown to epidemic proportion among the nation’s youth.

The *Bell Fit Kids* is part of the Michigan Healthy Lifestyles community matching grant program. With established collaboration with local school districts, physicians, dieticians, youth behavioral specialists and parents, Bell Hospital has expanded their program into a comprehensive wellness strategy for the youth in their area.



The Crisis in Rural Dentistry

Rural populations have fewer dentists, lower dental care utilization, and higher rates of dental caries and permanent tooth loss than urban populations. Reports from the Surgeon General and the Institute of Medicine call for more dentists in rural locations. Federal and state programs have focused on expanding rural dentist supply to increase dental access and improve oral health, but efforts may need to intensify to meet the needs of rural communities. For the full report go to: http://depts.washington.edu/uwrhrc/uploads/Rural_Dentists_PB_2009.pdf

J-1 waiver application period began October 1, 2009

Application packets for Michigan's Conrad 30 Program are now available for the 2009-2010 year. If your organization is located in a HPSA or MUA/P location, is designated as a FQHC or a CAH, or is a state-funded institution (state-funded primary care clinic, state correctional facility, CMH agency, forensic medical center, state psychiatric hospital) you may want to consider hiring a physician on a J-1 Visa to fill your opportunities.

Physicians that are granted a J-1 waiver are allowed to remain in the United States after the completion of their medical training in exchange for a 3-year commitment to practice in an under-served area.

The applications can be turned in beginning October 1, 2009 - November 30, 2009. Don't delay!

Perhaps a J-1 candidate is the perfect solution to your recruiting challenges. Call us today at (800) 479-1666 or log on to www.mimom.org to learn more!

- Applications for Michigan's J-1 Visa Waivers are now available - Log on to www.mimom.org for more information on how to apply
- Completed applications may be turned in October 1st - November 30th, 2009. A second application period will be available February 1st - February 28th, 2010 if there are still waivers available
- Your organization may consider a J-1 candidate because it is: a FQHC, CAH or a state-funded institution or located in a MUA/P or HPSA
- J-1 candidates can be found in the Medical Opportunities database at www.mimom.org

HIT Adoption Toolkit

The HIT Adoption Toolkit was developed by the Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) to assist rural health providers seeking to implement health IT (information technology) to improve the overall effectiveness of their institutions. AHRQ and its community of contractors and grantees have developed tools to help health care organizations plan for, implement, and evaluate health information technology (IT). These tools describe and recommend strategies for addressing some of the common challenges organizations encounter when working with health IT systems.

The Kid's Toolbox (3 modules) and the ORHP Toolbox (6 modules) are available:

http://healthit.ahrq.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=919&parentname=CommunityPage&parentid=3&mode=2&in_hi_userid=3882&cached=true... Also, links to these toolboxes have been added to the "Related Links" portlet on the Health IT Adoption Toolbox page.

Health IT for Children Toolbox: <http://healthit.ahrq.gov/HITforchildrentoolbox>

Rural Health IT Adoption Toolbox: <http://healthit.ahrq.gov/RuralHITToolbox>

Funding Opportunities

General Mills Champions for Healthy Kids Grant Program

The General Mills Foundation, in partnership with the American Dietetic Association Foundation and the President's Council on Physical Fitness, developed the Champions for Healthy Kids grant program in 2002. Each year since inception,

the General Mills Foundation awards 50 grants of \$10,000 each to community-based groups that develop creative ways to help youth adopt a balanced diet and physically active lifestyle.

<http://www.generalmills.com/corporate/commitment/champions.aspx>

Caring Communities

Caring Communities supports safety-net institutions and those providing prevention, primary, acute, and chronic care to underserved populations in rural and urban settings. Funding is awarded through the following three grant opportunities:

[Health Clinic Opportunity Fund](#)

[Safety-net Enhancement Initiative](#)

[Safety-net Facility Improvement](#)

The Protective Life Foundation

[Enhancing the Quality of Life Grants](#) The Foundation offers grants to non-profit organizations to improve the welfare and quality of life of a local community, and to programs that collaborate with other organizations and individuals in order to better serve the needs of their communities.

Advancing the Health and Well-Being of Rural Communities

This document discusses the future of health care delivery for rural America that includes access, community health and wellness. Organization: American Public Human Services Association.

<http://www.aphsa.org/Publications/Doc/PP/1009PART1.pdf> Date: 10 / 2009.

New Features on Flu.gov

Evaluation Guide, Flu Myths and Facts, Flu Essentials Flyers are among new resources on the federal government's one-stop resource for flu information -- www.flu.gov. The Web site now features a new H1N1 Flu Self-Evaluation guide for adults 18 and older along with a new Flu Myths and Facts section, which provides the public with the latest and most accurate information about the flu.

The new Flu Myths and Facts section on flu.gov debunks some of the myths about the H1N1 virus and vaccine, and provides accurate information on vaccinations, the flu, and public health.

The [H1N1 Flu Self-Evaluation](#) guide on flu.gov will give individuals 18 and older more information about what they can do to take care of themselves, prevent the spread of the flu to other members of their families, and identify the warning signs of more serious flu symptoms -- symptoms that require the attention of a medical professional.

The information in the H1N1 Flu Self-Evaluation guide is designed for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for your doctor's advice. It does not capture identifiable information in any manner and is completely anonymous. Organizations providing public health education, blogs, and members of the media can add it to their Web sites.

Rural-Urban Differences in Health Care Access Vary Across Measures

From the Rural Health Research and Policy Centers, a newly released study explores the differences in rural and urban health care access. "Higher uninsured rates and workforce shortages in rural areas suggest that rural residents face greater barriers to accessing health care than their urban counterparts. Analysis of the 2006 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey found mixed results. Rural residents were more likely than urban residents to have a usual source of health care (USC), particularly among the uninsured. Despite this, rural adults were somewhat less likely to receive certain preventive care services compared to urban adults. Additionally, rural residents were somewhat more likely to report long travel times to reach their USC and greater difficulty in reaching their provider after hours."

Rural Residents Lag in Preventive Services Use; Lag Increases with Service Complexity

"This research brief describes the receipt of preventive services among rural adults and explores the factors that are related

to disparities in utilization."

For more information or rural research, please visit the Rural Health Research Gateway Web site <http://www.ruralhealthresearch.org/>.

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.

New Educational Opportunities coming soon

- **Novel H1N1 in Michigan, An Update – Co-sponsored by Michigan Department of Community Health OPHP office**
Date: December 9 12-1 EST
- **Living with Myeloma: An Overview of Diagnosis and Treatment**
Date: January 19; 12-1:30 EST
Accredited through the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for 2 continuing education contact hours for nurses and 2 continuing education hours (1.75 clinical and .25 social work ethics) for social work..
- **Social Security Administration's Child/Adult Disability Claims – "By the way doctor, will you fill out this disability form?"**
Date: Wed., Feb. 17; 12-1 EST
Pending approval from the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative for 1 CE Clock Hour.

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

Angela Emge
Hospital Program Administrator
Michigan Center for Rural Health
B-218 West Fee Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1316

Telephone (517) 355-7757
Facsimile (517) 432-0007
E-mail aemge@msu.edu
www.com.msu.edu/micrh

Check our website at www.mcrh.msu.edu and click on the grand round button and than Special Topic area for more information or contact Phyllis at (517) 355-8250.

Interesting Web Site

The **National Rural Health Association (NRHA)** has developed a [web site on Health Reform](http://www.nrha.org/). On this page you can find information on health reform news and documents, as well as subscribe to the RSS Feed for NRHA Health Reform information and learn how to participate in NRHA's weekly Grassroots call on Health Reform issues. For more information, please visit <http://www.ruralhealthweb.org/go/left/policy-and-advocacy/health-reform>.

Interesting Quote

"It ain't what you want you get the most of in this life..."

-Anne Hart

MICHIGAN CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH SPONSORS

The sponsors listed on this page support the Michigan Center for Rural Health mission to "coordinate, plan and advocate for improved health for Michigan's rural residents and communities".

Berner Medical Systems, Inc.

Professional Medical Building
Contact: William Berner
(989) 892-7722

Rural Health Billing is a complicated undertaking in itself, much less trying to keep your staff trained and up to date on the ever changing rules and regulations that accompany this program. Berner Medical System specializes in RHC billing with over 17 years of experience in this arena. We know the ins and outs of Rural Health billing, and are on top of all the changes that come along.

Not only can Berner Medical garner the best possible reimbursement for your claims, but you will also have your own employees freed up to do other patient care and processing duties. A timely receipt of increased collections for your practice is our goal.

If you would like more information on how we can work with you to achieve that goal, call us today to find out how Berner Medical Systems Inc. can help you streamline the billing aspects of your practice and allow you to focus on patient care.

Community Health Associates, Inc. (CHAI)

Contact: John D. Esselink
(586-777-4220, ext. 203
www.communityhealthassoc.com

Community Health Associates, Inc. (CHAI) provides consulting and management services to healthcare providers and other public and private health-related entities. Since 1988, the firm has earned a distinctive national reputation for providing personalized, practical and effective consulting services to hospitals, local health departments and state and national health care associations. CHAI is also recognized nationally as a provider of technical assistance services for the Rural Health Clinic (RHC) and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) programs.

Health Services Associates, Inc.

2 East Main Street
Freemont, MI 49412
(231) 924-0244
www.hsagroup.net

Promoting Access to Health Care

Assisting with the Development of Operations and Management of RHC's and FQHC's; meeting all of your RHC Cost Report, Policy and Procedure, Billing and Consulting needs. We offer electronic medical billing services to rural health clinics as a part of our complete consulting services available for RHC's. HSA is also a nationally recognized expert in the area of non-physician reimbursement and payment policy.

Humana MarketPoint

Contact: Sarah Oomen

(616) 942-6701, Extension 2242

Fax: (920) 632-9116

www.humana.com

Humana Inc., headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, is one of the nation's largest publicly traded health benefits companies, with approximately 11.3 million medical members, including more than 4.5 million Medicare Advantage and prescription drug plan members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Humana offers coordinated health benefits and related services to individuals, groups, and government-sponsored plans.

With more than 47 years of experience in the health industry, Humana is a recognized leader in the areas of wellness and chronic disease managements programs for our members. In addition to providing health benefits, we educate members about their choices and guide them to make informed decisions about their health coverage and care. To find out more about Humana, visit our Website, Humana-medicare.com.

Lancaster Pollard

Contact: Tanya K. Hahn

(614) 224-8800

Fax: (614) 224-8805

www.lancasterpollard.com

One of the nation's largest groups of finance professionals dedicated to the hospital sector, Lancaster Pollard specializes in expansion, renovation and new construction financing as well as debt refinancing so hospital organizations can expand and improve their services. The firm offers a full range of investment banking, financial advisory, mortgage banking and investment advisory services. As a leading underwriter of bonds and mortgages, Lancaster Pollard has earned a reputation for delivering sound financial advice and the most cost-effective financing options available.

Midwest Alliance for Telehealth & Technology Resources (MATTeR)

Contact: David Smith, Project Coordinator

Marquette General Hospital, IT Department

580 W. College Ave.

Marquette, MI 49855

(906) 225-4733*-

David.r.smith@mghs.org

Midwest Alliance for Telehealth & Technology Resources (MATTeR) supports existing and developing telehealth networks to meet the health needs of rural residents and underserved communities. Midwest Alliance for Health Education is a consortium of health organizations concerned about access to quality, timely continuing profession education.

The Rybar Group, Inc.

Contact: Claudine Hildreth

3150 Owen Rd

Fenton, MI 48430

(810) 750-6822

Fax: (810) 750-6733

www.TheRybarGroup.com

The Rybar Group, Inc. has spent the past twenty years developing into a premier healthcare consulting firm. With services covering financial, reimbursement, clinical, HIM, and organizational needs, we work to ensure that you are optimizing the reimbursement and financial benefits available to your organization. We offer a variety of services that have been tailored to meet the special needs of Critical Access Hospitals.