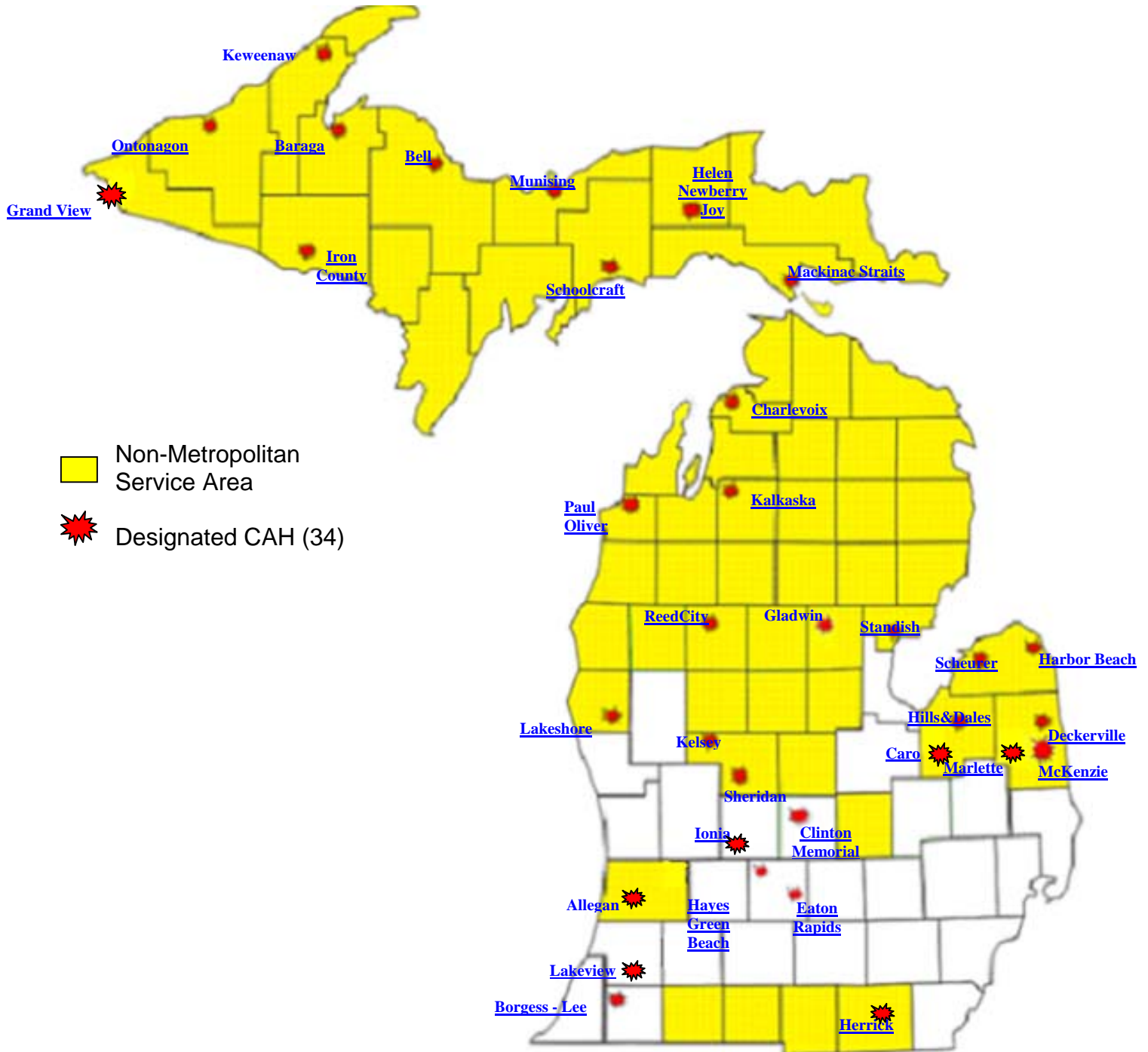


# CAH Chronicle



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

## MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



## Mercy Health Partners – Lakeshore Campus Receives \$343,096 from USDA Rural Development

Mercy Health Partners Lakeshore Campus accepted a ceremonial check of \$343,096 for the “USDA Rural Utilities Services Picture Archiving Communications (PACS) Project “ from the USDA Rural Development on Friday, April 25, 2008.

The money was available through a Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant. The Picturing Archiving Communication System will allow Lakeshore to share diagnostic images with other medical facilities, improving the access of area residents to top-quality health care. The total cost of the project is more than \$700,000.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity, liquidity, and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA’s web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.ovv>.



Renee Raspotnik, Radiology Manager, Jonathon Seyferth, Cong. Hoekstra’s office. Gene DeRossett, UISDA; Jay Bryan CEO; Lori Stevenson, Lab Director e; Angela Emge, MCRH; Ron Mellon, USDA; Marv Judnich, Senator Stabenow’s office

## Rural hospital CEO 'not surprised' by HCAHPS

Written by: Edward Gamache, CEO, Deckerville (Mich.) and Harbor Beach (Mich.) Community Hospitals. In response to Jean DerGurahian's "[Quality experts say HCAHPS data preliminary](#)":

This article concerning the newly released patient satisfaction results described a bias that is unfortunate.

As a chief executive officer of two critical-access hospitals, I am not surprised at the favorable scores small rural hospitals received through the process. I consistently receive feedback and have conducted local satisfaction surveys from our patients that support the numeric results identified in the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems program. I have also received comments concerning the care my patients receive at larger hospitals. The HCAHPS scores reflect patient perceptions to which I am accustomed.

Based on the correspondence I received the week after the public data release from Press Ganey Associates and other HCAHPS vendors about the successful scores of hospitals participating in their individual programs, I suspect a number of subsets of organizations had positively biased scores. It is unfortunate that the article had to characterize higher scores in rural hospitals and a small group of Alabama hospitals as a variation warranting suspicion about the accuracy of the HCAHPS reporting process. Source: Modern Healthcare: Article published April 15, 2008.

## Barnett is back in the “Thumb”

McKenzie Memorial Hospital in Sandusky has a new president and chief executive officer. Steve Barnett, former CEO of Harbor Beach Community Hospital in Huron County, will assume his job in Sandusky in mid-May. JoAnn Hall, who has led the hospital since September 2005, plans to retire after helping Barnett make a smooth transition.

### **Scheurer Hospital Recognized**

Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon has received the American Hospital Association (AHA) 2007 Most Valuable Political Action Committee Player Award. Scheurer was one of only two Michigan hospitals honored for their outstanding performance in support of the AHA's political fundraising efforts.

### **CFO Benchmarking Project**

In November of 2007, 14 Critical Access Hospital CFO's met to discuss and establish opportunities for benchmarking of relevant indicators for the hospitals to evaluate various aspects of their processes in relation to best practice. Sharing of best practices will ultimately allow organizations to adopt such best practices according to their individual needs for performance.

The group has clearly defined measures and indicators for: radiology, emergency department, operating room, and acute care. The group opened the benchmarking project to all Michigan CAH's at the Michigan Center for Rural Health Conference on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are interested in participating in the CAH CFO Benchmarking Project, contact: Angie Emge at: [aemge@msu.edu](mailto:aemge@msu.edu), or 517.355.7757.

### **MI Volunteer Registry System Upgrade**

The MI Volunteer Registry has recently upgraded to account for an automated healthcare credentialing and verification mechanism, and greater record collecting capabilities for yielding a more comprehensive and targeted volunteer search result. As volunteers submit their applications and/or update their profile, an ordered set of credentialing information is posed to each healthcare provider type. Not all credentials are currently being verified however the platform has been established for doing so. Currently, status is being verified with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the purpose of detecting fraud and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery. Licensure verification is expected to soon go automated and agreements are in progress with the national databanks for verifying physician specialty, certification, and record of adverse actions. In addition to the new registry credentialing components, volunteers will also be providing information on their personal characteristics, deployment availability, language fluency, and more. There are currently over 4,000 volunteers registered and all are strongly encouraged to update their profile information at [www.mivolunteerregistry.org](http://www.mivolunteerregistry.org).

### **MIHAN Update**

The Michigan Health Alert Network (MIHAN) has grown to over 4,000 participants from local health departments, hospitals, clinics, and many other critical first responders across the state. The system continues to be used as a critical notification system for important health-related information. The MIHAN has been used for actual events, and it is regularly for exercises and drills. One of the newest features of the system is the ability for a participant to call a toll free phone number, to retrieve and confirm their alerts. This feature allows you to review alerts from virtually anywhere. We continue to expand the MIHAN's capabilities as we move forward in providing tools for all our emergency preparedness healthcare partners. If you are interested in registering your health clinic to receive MIHAN alerts, please contact Steve Shotwell at 517-355-7758 or by email at [Steve.Shotwell@hc.msu.edu](mailto:Steve.Shotwell@hc.msu.edu).

### **SAVE THESE DATES**

#### **– Capital Campaign, Annual Fund Drives, Endowments**

June 10, 2008, Otsego Club, Gaylord, MI. The Michigan Center for Rural Health is sponsoring a daylong Capital Campaign, Annual Fund Drive, and Endowment education session. Watch your mail for complete information.

## 2008 CAH Conference

Nov. 6-7, 2008

Mountain Grand Lodge Resort Boyne Falls, MI

### GRAND ROUNDS:

#### PHARMACY

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2008

Time: 1:00-2:00 pm EST

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

"Pharmacotherapy and Nutrition Management Issues in the Bariatric Surgery Patient" - Wayne J English, MD, FACS  
*Continuing Education: for pharmacists pending.*

#### ARTHRITIS

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

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

#### 2008 Schedule

- June 11- Back Pain Joseph Weiss, MD
- 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 p.m. except July and August.

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

#### 2008 Schedule

- May 7 – Elder Abuse by Dr. Dean Sienko & Detective Traci Ruiz
- No program June, July or August
- 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.*

#### NURSING

Held quarterly from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

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

- May 6 – Present and Future Trends for Michigan's Nurses, Carole Stacy, NR, MA, MSN
- Sept. 16 – TBD
- 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 p.m.

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

### 2008 Schedule

- July 23 -Eating Disorders: Christine Shafer, MD
- 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** More information coming soon.

- September 18 – TBD
- 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](http://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 p.m.

Sponsored by the Michigan Association of Ambulance

- May 2008 - TBD

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

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## INTERESTING QUOTE:

"Imagination is the highest kite that one can fly."

- Lauren Bacall