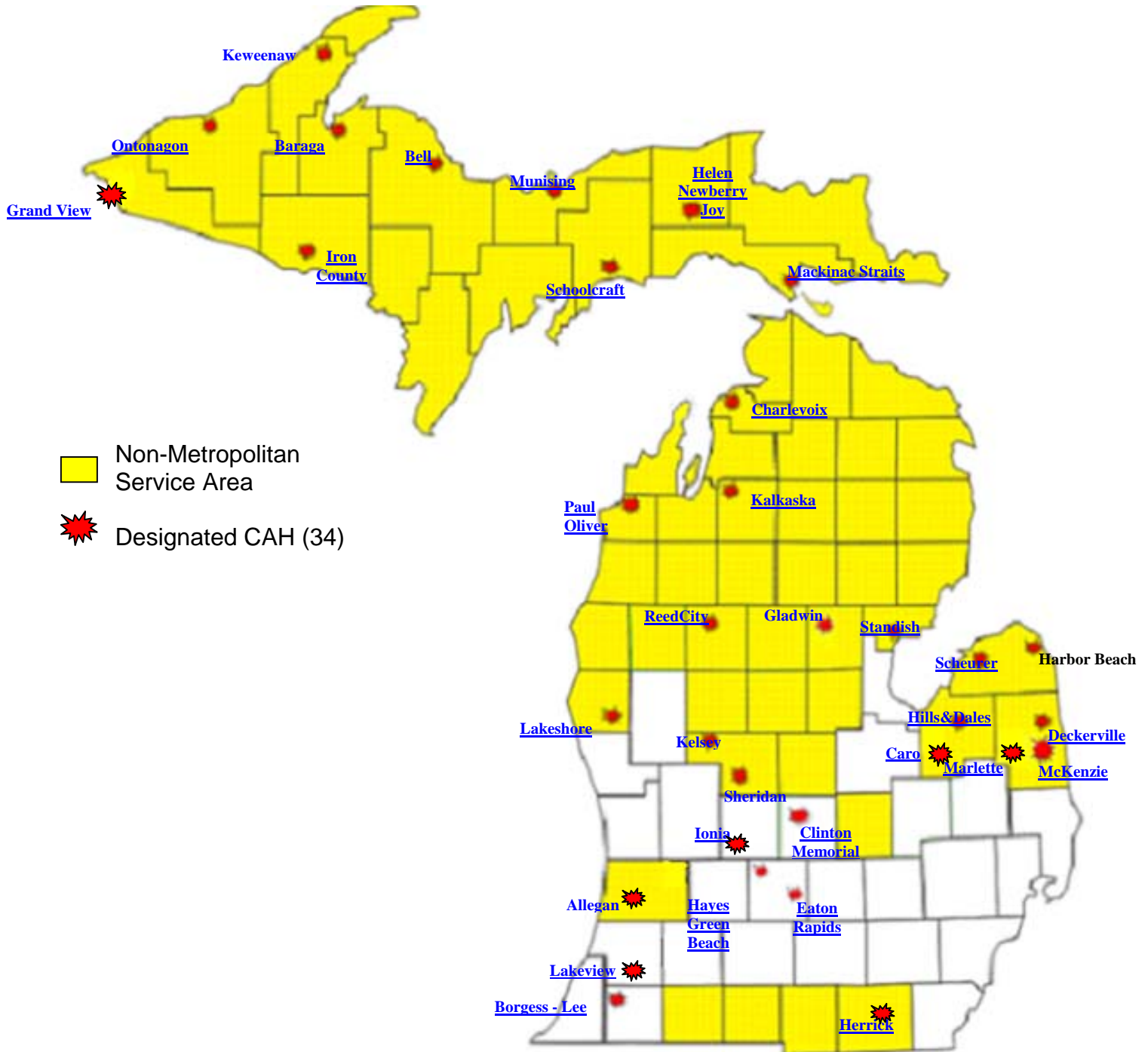


CAH Chronicle



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

MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Clinton Memorial Hospital Receives Funding to Implement Safety Initiatives

Clinton Memorial Hospital was awarded \$14,000 from the Cardinal Health Foundation in support of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's (IHI) 5 Million Lives Campaign to implement safety initiatives in rural and public hospitals.

Clinton Memorial will address improved care for congestive heart failure and implement efforts to reduce surgical site infections. They have committed to submit relevant data to the IHI and share experiences, ideas and outcomes with other Campaign participants.

Clinton Memorial is one of 37 facilities nationwide, one of two hospitals in Michigan and the only Critical Access Hospital in Michigan to receive funding to help deepen their commitment and ability to implement IHI initiatives, aimed at protecting patients from five million incidents of medical harm.

For more information on the Cardinal Health Foundation visit www.cardinalhealth.com. Contact Pete Shannon, Foundation Director at Clinton Memorial Hospital at 989-292-3037 for additional grant information.

Evidence-Based Hospital Design

Can the design of a hospital affect the quality of your care? Does noise reduction improve patient satisfaction? Will better lighting decrease medical errors?

The evidence says yes.

Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has just released a new DVD that provides evidence to help hospital officials and architects design safer, high quality hospitals. This new two-part DVD illustrates the value of evidence-based hospital design – a phrase used to describe how the physical design of health care environments affects patients and staff.

Check out this new pub/DVD @ <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/transform.htm>. Source: AHRQ Press Release

AHRQ Releases Toolkits to Help Providers and Patients Implement Safer Health Care Practices

An array of toolkits designed to help doctors, nurses, hospital managers, patients and others reduce medical errors has been released by HHS' Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

The 17 toolkits, developed by AHRQ-funded experts who specialize in patient safety research, are free, publicly available, and can be adapted to most health care settings. The toolkits range from checklists to help reconcile medications when patients are discharged from the hospital to processes to enhance effective communication among caregivers and with patients to toolkits to help patients taking medications.

The toolkits were developed through AHRQ's Partnerships in Implementing Patient Safety (PIPS) program. Researchers who developed the toolkits examined best practices in a variety of health care settings, including small rural facilities, large urban hospitals, health clinics, and hospital emergency departments. They also studied patient safety interventions among diverse populations, including children and older patients.

While some of the toolkits focus on identifying high-risk practices, others are designed to help health professionals reduce medication errors or other patient harms. Examples of the kinds of interventions that the toolkits promote include:

- The Re-Engineered Hospital Discharge "Project RED" toolkit standardizes the hospital discharge process through a set of manuals and software designed to improve communication between patients and clinicians.

- The Medications at Transitions and Clinical Handoffs "MATCH" toolkit focuses on identifying patient risk factors frequently responsible for inaccurate medication reconciliation, including limited English proficiency and low health literacy, complex medication histories, or impaired mental status.
- The Preventing Venous Thromboembolisms in the Hospital and the Interactive Venous Thromboembolism Safety Toolkit for Providers and Patients toolkits focus on multidisciplinary approaches to the elimination of preventable hospital-acquired blood clots.
- The ED Pharmacist as a Safety Measure in Emergency Medicine toolkit focuses on improving medication safety and reconciliation through the implementation of a program that places pharmacists in hospital emergency departments.

In addition, the 17 PIPS toolkits correlate with the Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goals, which promote system-wide improvements in patient safety. For more information and a complete listing of the 17 toolkits, visit <http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/pips>. Source: AHRQ Press Release

New Health Information Technology Resource Center Launched to Improve the Nation's Rural Health Care Communication

The Rural Health Resource Center (RHRC) of Duluth, Minnesota, is launching a rural Health Information Technology Web-based resource center with funding from the federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

Health Information Technology (HIT) is an important tool in today's health care environment to reduce medical errors, improve patient safety, and advance the overall quality of health care. To assure that rural communities are receiving the quality HIT information they need, RHRC, along with partnering organizations, are structuring a Web-based resource center for information on rural HIT – www.ruralHIT.org.

The goal of this search engine is to assist with rural HIT education, identify and publicize rural HIT models, provide access to rural HIT information and help to develop tools, processes and other resources to support rural providers with HIT implementation. The development of a rural HIT Web-based resource center will greatly improve support to rural hospitals and communities by providing information and a means of communication among rural health providers to drive HIT implementation throughout rural America.

The HIT site will also facilitate greater use of electronic health records in rural hospitals. In May 2006, RHRC, in collaboration with the Universities of Minnesota, North Carolina, and Southern Maine, completed a national study that found that only 20% of small rural hospitals used some type of electronic health records. Use rates for clinical applications of such technology are also lower than overall national rates for hospitals, as reported by the American Hospital Association. The rural HIT site will provide resources and support to rural hospitals as they transition from paper records to electronic health record technology. Source: RHRC Press Release

Eight Week Grant Writing Course Targeting Rural

EIGHT WEEK GRANT WRITING COURSE - NO TRAVEL: The next session of the "University Grants Training and Certification" eight-week course starts January 31, 2008. To receive details, log on to:

<http://www.fhsu.edu/sociology/grantsprogram.shtml>. Student feedback has been extremely positive. This course was designed for working people who don't have time to attend regular classes. Most students are full time professionals in rural health.

Interest Rates for USDA Rural Development Community Program Loans Effective from January 1, 2008, through March 31, 2008, the interest rates for community program loans (water, sewer and community facility) are as follows:

Poverty Line...unchanged at.....4.500%
Intermediate...decreased to..... 4.375%
Market.....decreased to..... 4.375%

This quarter, all loans may be obligated at the lower market rate. Language in the continuing resolution for FY 2008 requires the poverty rate remain at 4.5 %. For additional information contact Frank J. Tuma, Director, Community Programs, USDA Rural Development, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, 517-324-5208 FAX: 517-324-5225.

Improving the Quality of Stroke Care at Critical Access/Rural Hospitals

You are invited to attend a conference call specifically for Critical Access and Rural Hospitals about how to improve the quality of stroke care targeting the unique needs of CAH & rural hospitals. Pat Biery, RN, Tipton Memorial Hospital will be discussing how to educate staff about stroke and in the NIH Stroke Scale and Donna Sexton, RN, from Dunn Memorial will be discussing how to create documentation systems that doctors and nurses will use. Speaker presentations will be available to download approximately one week prior to the call at <http://glrsn.uic.edu>.

Date: January 31, 2008
Time: 1:00 pm CT /2:00 pm ET
Presentation Time: Approximately 45 minutes
Discussion Time: Approximately 15 minutes

Dial In Number: 877-723-9522 **Pass code:** GWTG

Recommended audience: ED Staff/Quality/Nursing

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will educate their staff in the correct completion of the NIHSS in an efficient and effective manner.
2. Participants will be better prepared to educate their professional staff on how to complete the NIHSS, by using strategies and tools presented.
3. To understand and overcome the barriers that hinder compliance with implementation of a stroke protocol set.
4. Obtaining and maintaining staff competency for stroke protocol at a rural/critical access hospital.

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.

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

2008 EMS Instructor/Coordinator Course

This is a comprehensive program sponsored by the Sanilac Medical Services. Doug Smith, Platinum Educational Group, LLC will cover topics including instructional and presentation techniques, learning styles, course planning, evaluating student performance, and course coordination. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be eligible to take the Michigan EMS I/C Exam.

Prerequisites: 3-years field experience at the MFR level or above by exam date, written endorsement of two active Instructor/Coordinators, and must obtain a CPR Instructor card by course completion.

Course Dates: Classes are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (occasionally 7 p.m.)
January 4 - 6; January 11 - 13; January 18 - 20; February 1- 3; February 15 -, 17

Course Tuition: \$650 for Huron or Sanilac County Residents - \$950 for out-of-county residents
For More information contact Leslie Hall, Huron-Sanilac EMS Network Director: 989-284-5345

GRAND ROUNDS:

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

- February 13- Polymyalgia Vladimir Ognenovski, MD
- April 9 -Crystalline Arthropathies David Fox, MD
- 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

- January 2 -CANCELLED
- February 6 -Geriatric Assessment: An Incremental Approach Mark Ensberg, 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 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

- February – 2008 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

- January 23 -Diapers & Baby bottles: Special Psychological Issues for New 40+ Parents
- April 23 -Suicide and Antidepressants: Jed Magen, DO, MS
- 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

- January 17 - Social Work Ethics and Mandated Reporting of Child Maltreatment: A Primer: Joseph Kozakiewicz, JD, LMSW; Kimberly Steed, LMSW

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.

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

Interesting Web Site

<http://ric.nal.usda.gov>

Rural Information Center (RIC)

The RIC Web Site contains over 3,000 links to current and reliable information on a wide variety of rural resources and funding sources. RIC staff will provide customized information products to specific inquiries including funding sources, technical assistance programs, and other related issues.

INTERESTING QUOTE:

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face.... You must do the thing which you think you cannot do."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Soaring Eagle Resort, Mt. Pleasant

