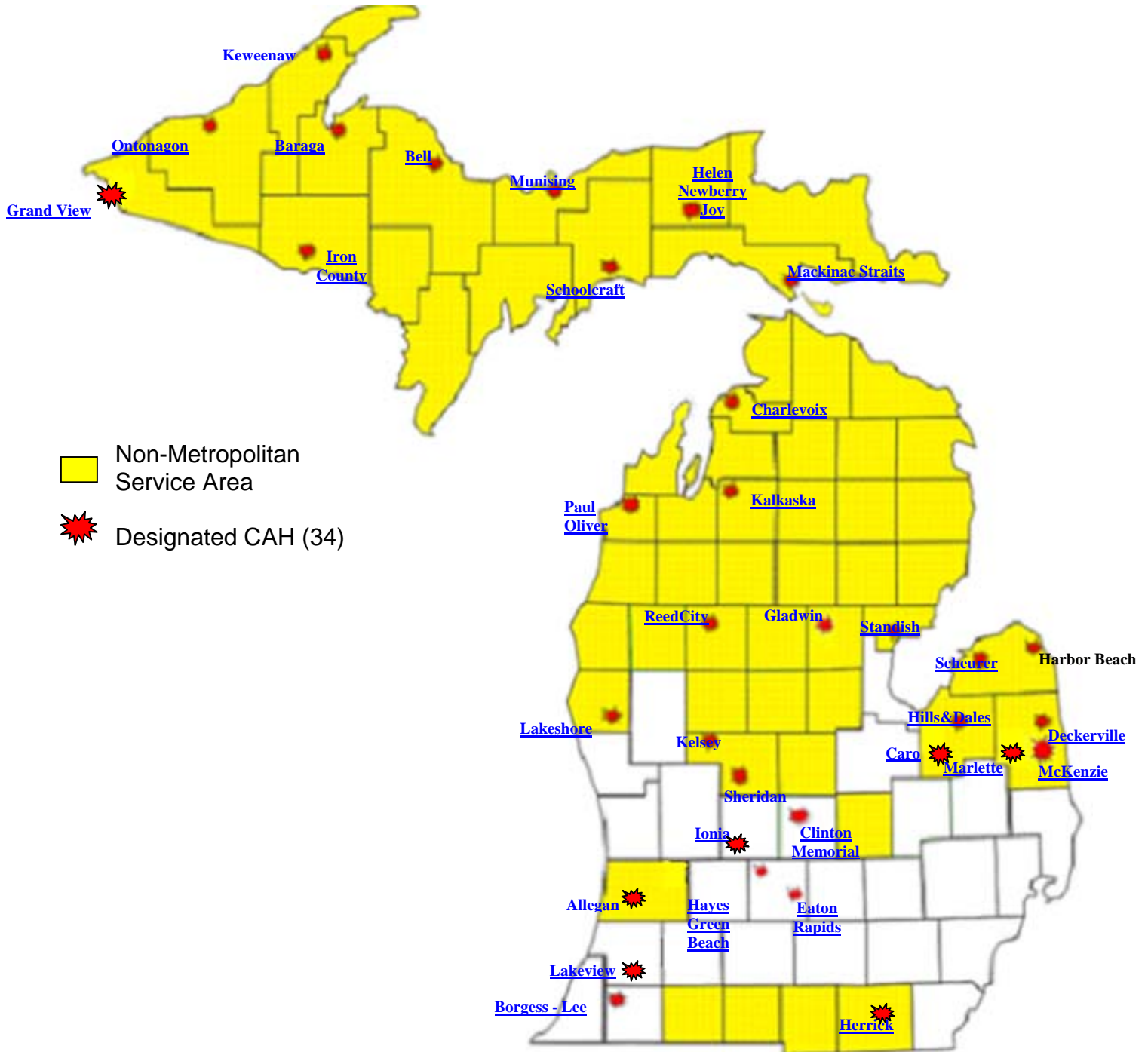


CAH Chronicle



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

MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Health Care Employers, Providers and Michigan State Loan Repayment Program Marketing Partners

As the December 2007 Michigan State Loan Repayment Program Application Period closes, the First Come, First Served Local Match Contract Application Period begins January 1, 2008.

This will be the next opportunity for medical, dental and mental health care providers to apply for a Michigan State Loan Repayment Program (MSLRP) contract. **It will also be the first opportunity for mental health care workers and their employers and communities to take advantage of expanded eligible practice site types and sources of funds for local match contracts.**

MSLRP provides loan repayment assistance to medical, dental and mental health care professionals who are willing to provide full-time primary health care services in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) at a not-for-profit health clinic for two or more years. Contracts awarded during the 2008 First Come, First Served Application Period will allow employer/local-matching contributions to be combined equally with federal funding through the Health Resources and Services Administration, to provide this loan repayment assistance. Contract start dates for successful applicants will be on or after April 1 2008.

Primary medical, dental and mental health care providers, such as physicians, dentists and psychiatrists, receive up to \$50,000 over their initial two-year contracts. Mid-level providers, such as physician assistants, nurse practitioners, MSWs and psychologists, receive up to \$30,000 for their first two years.

Please visit the MSLRP website at www.michigan.gov/mislrp, to learn more about how the program works eligibility and application requirements and the selection process. Call Ken at 517 241-9946 to discuss the best strategy for using MSLRP to assist in your recruitment and retention efforts, or email him at: MillerK3@michigan.gov.

Free On-Line Health Literacy Training

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) is offering a free on-line health literacy course.

Unified Health Communication 101: Addressing Health Literacy, Cultural Competency, and Limited English Proficiency is a free on-line learning experience that will help you

- improve your patient communication skills
- increase your awareness and knowledge of the three main factors that affect your communication with patients: health literacy, cultural competency and low English proficiency
- implement patient-centered communication practices that demonstrate cultural competency and appropriately address patients with limited health literacy and low English proficiency

You may choose to take the course for credit (CEU/CE, CHES, CME, CNE) or not for credit.

The course has five modules and is estimated to take a total of 5 hours to complete. You may complete the course at your own pace. Go to: <http://www.hrsa.gov/healthliteracy/training.htm> for complete information.

MCRH Announces New Partnership with MHA

The Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) has developed a new partnership with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) which will make the MHA's executive search and management recruiting service available to all of Michigan's Critical Access hospitals, at a discounted rate. For over 25 years, the MHA has provided a high-quality executive placement service through its *Professional Search Services* program. They can conduct regional and national searches for management and executive leadership talent to fill any anticipated vacancies in your Critical Access hospital.

The MHA maintains a large pool of candidates from around the country who are pre-screened and they have developed a national sourcing network to recruit additional candidates, for your consideration. They can do criminal and other background checks and the placements are guaranteed with a [prorated] refund policy. This service is designed to conduct search assignments for upper-level executive and middle-management vacancies. The regular contingency search fee is 25% of the annual starting salary. Through a special arrangement with the MCRH, the fee will be discounted to a 20% rate for any Critical Access hospital receiving supportive services from the MCRH.

Please keep the MHA in mind, as a preferred provider, the next time you need outside help in filling a management or executive vacancy at your facility. The MHA is at your service and the MCRH is pleased to be a partner and bring this valuable service to your organization. For more information, contact Steve O'Connor at MHA, at the address below.

Steve O'Connor SPHR
Senior Director
Professional Search Services
Michigan Health and Hospital Association
6215 W. St. Joseph Hwy.
Lansing, Michigan 48917
Phone: 517 663 5755
Voice mail: 517 886 8319
Toll free: 1-800-747 5755
Email: soconnor@mha.org
Website: www.mhaservicecorp.com

Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Applications Available

Applications are available through Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA) Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement (Rural Quality) grant program to fund as many 60 rural public, non-profit, or private healthcare providers, such as a critical access hospital or rural health clinic, totaling \$4.5 million in FY 08 awards. Rural Quality funding helps improve patient care and chronic disease outcomes for patients with diabetes and CVD by assisting rural primary care providers with the implementation of quality improvement strategies. Improving the quality of chronic disease management in primary care settings can improve health indicators and decrease emergency room visits or admissions to hospitals. Applications are due March 20, and awards are expected to be made by September 1. Please check the HRSA website at <http://ruralhealth.hrsa.gov/funding/SHCPQL.asp> for information on a TA call to be scheduled in early February. You can access the guidance on www.grants.gov. When searching for this grant opportunity, input the following: Announcement #: HRSA-08-058 CFDA #: 93.912.

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
- March 5 – Dementia, Decision making Capacity, and Goal Setting by Frank Komara, DO
- April 2 – Spirituality in Aging by Linda Keilman, MSN, APRN, BC, GNP
- 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

- February – 2008 TBD
- March 11 – Update on Arthritis & Osteoporosis: Issues for Nurses by Iris Zink, RN, MSN, APRN, BC
- May 6 – TBD
- 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

- 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 More information coming soon.

- March 20 – TBD
- 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: 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 Services and The Michigan Center for Rural Health.

February 28 – Pediatrics Are Not Aliens..But Close - Pediatric Patient Assessment – David Maatman

Objectives:

- List common causes of pediatric trauma
- State techniques for pediatric etiquette
- Apply the Pediatric Assessment Triangle
- Compare/contrast pediatric patients to aliens from outer space
- Assess for respiratory failure and shock

Credits: Approved for 1 Special Considerations-Pediatrics Continuing Education Credit

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

INTERESTING QUOTE:

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity;
an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

- Sir Winston Churchill

Michigan Rural Health Conference April 23-24, 2008 at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort “Opening Doors for Quality Healthcare”



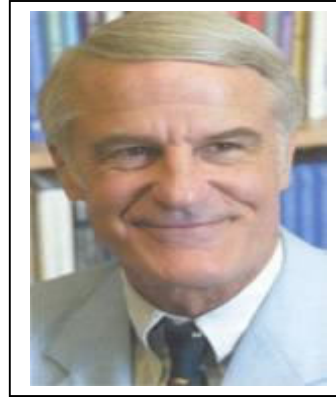
Please join us for the 11th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference, April 23-24, 2008, at the Mt. Pleasant Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

This year's conference features the “best of the best” presentations on Quality Improvement, Telehealth Medicine, Legislative Updates, Access to Oral Health Services, RHC Billing, Loan Repayment, and Rural Policy. The presentations are guaranteed to be practical and relevant by these high caliber and dynamic speakers.

With the support of the Michigan Center for Rural Health, Midwest Alliance for Telehealth & Technology Resources (MATTeR), Michigan Rural Health Association and the Michigan Rural Health Clinics Organization, Inc., this conference brings together rural health professionals for extensive learning and networking opportunities.

We are pleased to present Bill Ballenger, Editor and Publisher of *Inside Michigan Politics*, as our Keynote Speaker. He will present an “Update on the Lansing Political Scene.” Attendees will be treated to his insightful observations.

Conference registration booklets will be mailed out early in February. You can download a registration after February 1 on our website. Go to www.mcrh.msu.edu and click on the conference link.



For more information, contact Phyllis at (517) 355-8250 or ballp@msu.edu.