

Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards

**Provider Alliance**

May 19, 2009, 7:15 – 8:30 a.m.  
MACMHB Spring Conference  
Kalamazoo Radisson

**Agenda**

Present: Sam Al Jallad (Turning Leaf), Cheryl Betz (Synergy Partners), Barbara Fowkes (Spectrum Community Services), Larry Grinwis (Hope Network), Tory Hudson (Turning Leaf Residential), Jacqueline Kiss-Wilson (Training & Treatment Innovations), Brian McLuckie (Bay Human Services), Robert McLuckie (ASI), David Pankotai (ConsumerLink Network), Nathan Ratzlaff (Beacon Specialized Living Services), Kathy Swantek (Blue Water Dev), Mark Weeks (FWOGC), Betsy Wehl (Wiener Assoc), Grady Wilkinson (Sacred Heart)

Staff Present: Amy Zaagman and Georjean Knapp

**1. Legislative Update including State Budget**

Associate Director Amy Zaagman reported on the current status of the budget. The Executive Order does not include the bankruptcy of Chrysler or GM. She indicated that a second EO is not anticipated.

There was discussion on the need to take a more aggressive position on the budget, making it clear to legislators who will be hurt from the cuts and who benefits from GF. Also should discuss the surrounding damage; how many jobs will be cut. Focus on the local issue.

The overriding message needs to be that there is not enough money in the system.

It is important to stay on message. This is a good opportunity to show how bad the cuts are for providers.

Ms. Zaagman also reported that Rep. Angerer is pushing for passage of the autism bills.

**2. Election of Provider Alliance officers**

Election Results

Delegates: Chris Flores (Insights)  
Dave Pankotai (Consumer Link Network)  
Bret Finzel (Sunrise Centre)  
Tory Hudson (Turning Leaf Rehabilitation Services)

Officers: Mark Weeks, Chair  
Grady Wilkinson, Vice Chair  
Tory Hudson, Secretary

### **3. Newsletter**

Robert McLuckie reported on the need for members to write articles for the Provider Alliance Newsletter.

**Motion: Carried Swantek/Pankotai**

**TO EXPLORE COMBINING THE PROVIDER ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER WITH THE ASSOCIATION'S BOARD MEMBER PUBLICATION, CONNECTIONS. DISCUSSION TO CONTINUE AT JUNE MEETING.**

### **4. Licensing concerns/AFC survey**

Robert McLuckie reported that a survey on the AFC licensure issues will be sent out the last week in May.

### **5. Update on Provider Alliance Committees**

There was a brief report from the Strengthening Provider Alliance Committee. The new PA brochure is complete, and a new display board is in process. Voting rights within the Association will not happen this year but will be revisited.

### **6. Other**

Hill Day – If you plan to attend Hill Day, please get your information to Ms. Zaagman.

### **7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Provider Alliance is scheduled for Monday, June 22, 2009, 10:00am, MACMHB office, Lansing.

### **8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Georjean Knapp