



Michigan Association of **COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH Boards**

July 7, 2017

FRIDAYFACTS

TO: CMH and PIHP Executive Directors
Chairpersons and Delegates
Provider Alliance
Executive Board

FROM: Robert Sheehan, Chief Executive Officer
Alan Bolter, Associate Director

RE:

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WORK AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MACMHB MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

DWMHA announces success of naloxone partnership with first responders

Below is an excerpt from a recent Dome Magazine article on the success of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority's (DWMHA) partnership with the area's first responders in increasing the availability of the life-saving drug,

The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA) launched its Naloxone training and kits just over a year ago, saving over 52 lives! DWMHA trained over 1,900 first responders, substance use treatment and prevention providers, faith-based personnel and everyday people. The scope of our collective work is obvious in the immediate lives saved, not to mention the countless family members and friends that can rejoice that their loved one has another chance at recovery and life.

Be very clear: Michigan has an opioid epidemic. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, 52,404 people died of overdoses in 2015. Michigan's drug-related deaths climbed from 1,553 in 2013 to 1,980 in 2015. Michigan ranks 10th nationally in per capita prescription rates of opioid pain relievers and 18th in the nation for all overdose deaths.

DWMHA held two major events that focused on stemming the tide of this alarming trend. The first was our 2nd Annual Opioid Abuse and Heroin Overdose Summit, organized by the Greater Detroit Area Health Council and the DWMHA, held Thursday, May 11 in Livonia, together, we hosted over 500 professionals and community leaders focused on prevention, treatment and recovery.

We also worked with our federal, state and county law enforcement partners to organize a Community Town Hall Meeting on the Heroin and Opioid Prescription Epidemic held Wednesday, June 14th at Wayne State University with the DEA, FBI, U.S. Attorney General's Office, Michigan Attorney General's Office Michigan State Police and Detroit Police Department. Here we led a panel discussion on the issue to enhance our coordination with the community around combating the epidemic.

On June 21st DWMHA celebrated its progress with an Annual Meeting and Community Celebration Luncheon at Burton Manor in Livonia. During the luncheon DWMHA recognized individuals for literally saving lives in battling the Opioid epidemic with the Naloxone kits. A hush fell over the room as the mistress of ceremonies, WDIV-TV Karen Drew called the names of the men and women in blue as they came up to be recognized and awarded for their life-saving efforts:

The full article can be found at: <http://domemagazine.com/tomwatkins/tw070717>

STATE AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND RESOURCES

MDHHS issues draft Medicaid policy lifting cap on outpatient psychotherapy and psychiatry

Earlier this week, MDHHS issued a draft Medicaid policy that proposes to eliminate the twenty (20) session cap on outpatient psychotherapy and psychiatry that has been in place since 1998. This benefit is managed (authorized and paid) by the Medicaid Health Plans. The proposed policy can be found at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/1714-MH-P_577808_7.pdf

Comments on this proposed policy are being taken, by MDHHS, through August 9, 2017.

This is very welcome news, in that the current twenty (20) session cap artificially limited access to these outpatient services to the Medicaid enrollees with mild to moderate mental health needs.

While this is a welcome policy proposal, consumers, advocates, and community stakeholders underscore that the 20 session cap is not the chief cause preventing Medicaid enrollees from obtaining needed outpatient psychotherapy and psychiatry services. What prevents Medicaid enrollees from accessing this benefit, they point out, is the fact that there are very few providers (in some communities, no providers) on the psychotherapy and psychiatry provider panels of the Medicaid Health Plans and that where panel members exist, they often have long waiting lists. Without access to this care, Medicaid enrollees turn to their local CMH and its provider network for services. To close this service gap and prevent greater harm to Medicaid enrollees with the mild-to-moderate mental health needs that are meant to be met with this outpatient psychotherapy and psychiatry benefit, CMHs, their provider networks, and the public PIHPs that manage Medicaid mental health services often step up and serve these persons. They do this for humanitarian and risk management reasons (in that if the consumer's needs escalate for lack of access to this level of care, the costs of more intensive services are borne by the CMH/provider/PIHP system), in spite of the fact that this benefit is within the benefit package of the Medicaid Health Plans.

Again, we applaud MDHHS for making this change and urge continued work to improve access to this needed mental health service.

Health Policy Forum recording now available

The Michigan State University Health Policy Forum, of which MACMHB is a Board member, recently announced the availability of the recording of its most recent Forum. That announcement is provided below:

The recording of the May 1, 2017 Michigan Health Policy Forum is now available on the Forum website.: <http://michiganhpf.msu.edu/index.php/12-archive/42-spring-2017-forum> The topic, "The First 100 Days of the Trump Administration", remains timely as the US Senate struggles to find the sweet spot that will allow their moderate and conservative Republicans to join forces to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act.

Our thanks to all of you who attended the Forum. With over 400 registrants, it was our highest attended Forum to date.

The Michigan Health Policy Forum Advisory Board has reviewed your topic suggestions for the next Forum. Although the future direction of healthcare is still being decided, it is clear that the federal government wants to shift financial risk for the Medicaid program back to the states. This will require the states to take bold steps to reduce their Medicaid expenditures. The Forum Advisory Board has suggested that the next Forum examine the bold steps under way in other states.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at the fall Michigan Health Policy Forum.

BJS releases latest study on inmate mental health and substance use disorder needs

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has recently released two new reports on inmate health. The first is *Indicators of mental health problems reported by prisoners and jail inmates, 2011-12* and the second is *Drug use, dependence, and abuse among state prisoners and jail inmates, 2007-09*. Although the drug use report is already dated, this provides BJS's most recent data on inmate drug use. As the lead author of both reports, Jennifer Bronson (Jennifer.Bronson@usdoj.gov) has indicated that she is very willing to answer any questions that readers may have relative to the studies' methodology or findings. The reports can be found at:

Drug use report: : <https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5966>

Mental health report: <https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5946>

2017 PAC Campaign Update

Earlier this year we announced our 2017 CMH PAC campaign with the goal of increasing member participation. This year's campaign exceeded last year's contribution levels, but participation remained about the same. Last month we held the drawing for the Detroit Tiger box suite tickets donated by Muchmore Harrington Smalley Associates and the winner was... Lapeer CMH.

Congratulations to Lapeer CMH and thank you to all who generously contributed to the CMH PAC.

Just because the Tiger drawing has been completed does not stop the need for CMH PAC support. If you would still like to support our PAC efforts please mail your contribution to our office, below are the details:

Make checks payable to: CMH PAC ~ 426. S. Walnut St. ~ Lansing, MI 48933 (no corporate checks, please)

Thank you. Please feel free to contact Bob or Alan with any questions.

COOKIE GANT SPIRIT AWARD

Cookie Gant was a Michigan-grown, but nationally known, advocate for human rights. She was a disability activist, a performance artist, a diversity specialist in every aspect of life. Cookie fought for human rights in the mental health system every day, never giving up her tough spirit, her love for others, or her sense of humor. She was an unstoppable, irreverent activist, who always maintained loving support and affection for people in "the movement." Shortly after her death in 2003, the State Recipient Rights Advisory Committee established an award in her honor with the intent that it be presented annually to a person who exhibits the dedication, demonstrates the tenacity, and advocates diligently for persons with mental illness or developmental disabilities - just the way Cookie lived her life. This person may be a

consumer of mental health services, a parent, guardian or someone who works in the field of public mental health. If you know of someone who exhibits the dedication, tenacity, and compassion of Cookie Gant and who advocates diligently for persons with mental illness or developmental disabilities, please use the link below to download and complete a nomination form. Nominations will be reviewed by the MDHHS Recipient Rights Committee and the honoree will be revealed during the Recipient Rights Conference in Kalamazoo on September 21st. The deadline for nominations is August 15th. [Cookie Gant Spirit Award Nomination Form](#)

MDHHS DIRECTOR'S AWARDS FOR RECIPIENT RIGHTS

Since 2000, the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has recognized the outstanding contributions of Recipient Rights staff, offices, or affiliate organizations on the overall impact on Michigan's Recipient Rights Protection system. Recognition is awarded in three categories:

Director's Award for Innovation in Rights Protection

Nominees for the innovation award will have created a new or different way of enabling the vision of recipient rights or of a rights office. This may include creating a valuable new process or product, constructing a different way of approaching old problems, creating a new solution for systemic problems, etc. As a result of this innovation, there has been an increased ability to better provide rights services either directly (such as when performing standard rights activities) or indirectly (such as if the innovation improves or enhances the operation of the rights office.) The nominee will also have shown a demonstrated willingness to share the innovation with others when possible.

Director's Award for Advocacy on Behalf of Mental Health Recipients

Nominees for the Advocacy Award will have made an outstanding contribution toward, or have gone to extraordinary means, to advocate on behalf of people receiving mental health services. This may include exceptional effort or initiative by the nominee directly advocating on behalf of an individual consumer or a group of consumers. It may also include extraordinary indirect advocacy, such as a rights office acting as a catalyst for positive change, inspiring other entities or systems within or outside of mental health, to realize their roles in championing the rights or needs of recipients.

Director's Award for Consumer Empowerment

A nominee for the Consumer Empowerment Award will have made a profound or uniquely positive difference in the lives of consumers, so that consumers are empowered to transcend the "world of disability" and live a life of self-advocacy. Due to the initiative or effort of the nominee, consumers will now be able to advocate for themselves, to the fullest extent possible, in the protection of their own rights, creating hope, control of their own lives, and a valuable place in society.

Nominees may be either: 1] Individuals, 2] Recipient Rights offices operated by MDHHS, CMHSP, or Licensed Private Hospitals/Units (LPH/U), or 3] Programs/projects contracted with, or associated with those agencies. Use the link below to download the nomination form. Deadline for nominations is August 15th. The honorees will be recognized during the Recipient Rights Conference in Kalamazoo on September 22nd. [MDHHS Director's Award Nomination Form](#)

Save the Date: Annual Recipient Rights Conference!

The 24th Annual Recipient Rights Conference, "United in Rights", will be held from September 19th-22nd at the Radisson Plaza Hotel and Suites in Kalamazoo.

The Pre-Conference session on Tuesday, September 19th will feature Lena Sisco, the author of "You're Lying! Secrets from an Expert Military Interrogator to Spot the Lies and Get to the Truth," and "Marine Scout Snipers; True Stories From U.S. Marine Corps Snipers". She is a former Department of Defense certified military interrogator and Naval Intelligence Officer. Entities she has trained and currently trains include: Naval Special Warfare, Customs and Border Protection, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Homeland Security, Defense Intelligence Agency, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, local and federal Law Enforcement Agencies, International Association of Arson Investigators, and numerous private sector companies. She trains people to "Be a Detecting Deception Expert, Be a R.E.B.L.E.™." The acronym R.E.B.L.E. stands for her 5-step detecting deception

program that will teach you how to enhance your detecting deception skills and your confidence in detecting deception with the most accuracy a human can possess. Registration for the pre-conference session will be available for anyone interested in body language skills, investigations, etc. The content will be appropriate for rights staff, APS and CPS investigators, hospital administrative staff, local and state police, etc.

The Conference's opening keynote speaker will be author and ethics expert Chuck Gallagher. Chuck's practical tested and time proven methods will enhance your personal and professional performance. What Chuck shares in his presentations, are understandings of not only "how to", but also "what motivates behavior"—behavior of individuals that can create personal and professional success. Some of the 26 conference breakout sessions include:

- Creating Inclusive Spaces for LGBTQ+ Community
- Medication, What Every Rights Officer Needs to Know
- Confidentiality and Recipient Rights: The Intersection of Federal and State Laws Impacting Patient Privacy
- AFC Licensing Issues

Details about the conference can be found at: [24th Annual Recipient Rights Conference](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

House and Senate Return Next Week

Both the House and Senate are scheduled to be in session next Wednesday, July 12. This is the only scheduled session day in the month of July for both chambers. It is anticipated the House will attempt to muster the necessary votes to pass Governor Snyder's much desired "Good Jobs" package, which is a series of tax incentive bills for businesses.

The Senate has already passed the package.

NATIONAL UPDATE

Congressional Budget Office Score is Out

The Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) [score](#) confirmed the health care legislation proposed by the U.S. Senate will hurt millions of Americans by slashing their health care coverage and will increase costs for low-income families and seniors. According to the CBO's analysis, if passed, the Senate bill would leave 22 million people without health care coverage by 2026.

The Senate bill would also lead to significant cost increases in Michigan and would end the Medicaid expansion program, known as the Healthy Michigan Plan. This would eliminate health care for more than 670,000 vulnerable Michiganders, including low and middle-income families and children. An analysis from the Kaiser Foundation [estimates the average monthly premium after the tax credit would be 74 percent higher under the Senate Health Bill in 2020.](#)

An estimated [4 million people who have employer provided coverage would also lose it under the GOP plan](#), which would make it easier for large companies to stop providing insurance.

U.S. Sens. Stabenow and Peters are standing strong in their [opposition](#) to this devastating legislation.

It is important that we start now to contact Michigan House members, particularly U.S. Reps. Bergmann, Upton, Trott

and Bishop, to let them know their constituents are among the majority of Americans nationally who oppose the Senate plan. If you have not taken action on through [Protect MI Care](#), please encourage your members to do so now.

Here are some talking points on the CBO Score:

- The CBO confirms that like the House-passed health bill (AHCA), the Senate bill (Better Care Reconciliation Act or BCRA) would result in millions of people losing coverage, end the Medicaid expansion and the Medicaid program as we know it, and increase premiums and out-of-pocket costs for many of those who purchase insurance on their own — especially low-income people and older people.
- It also shows that small changes and revisions will not fix this bill. The Senate cannot undo these harmful effects without completely revamping the bill's entire structure -- namely the Senate bill's deep cuts to Medicaid that pay for tax breaks for the wealthy, pharmaceutical companies and insurers.
- After AHCA was passed by the House, many Senators went on record to claim they opposed it and that the Senate would start over and draft a "better" bill. The CBO score shows that the Senate has made no real improvements.
- Under the Senate bill the number of uninsured would rise by 15 million people *next year*, and by 19 million people in 2020, relative to current law.
- Under the ACA, the uninsured rate has fallen to a historic low of 9 percent. CBO finds that by 2026, nearly all of the coverage gains experienced under the ACA would be eliminated and the uninsured rate among the non-elderly would rise almost to its 2010 level, before the ACA took effect.
- The Senate bill would end the Medicaid expansion and end Medicaid as we know it – slashing federal Medicaid spending by \$772 billion over the next 10 years and causing 15 million people to lose Medicaid coverage – all to pay for \$570 billion in tax cuts for the wealthy, insurers and pharmaceutical companies.

Register for Hill Day 2017

The time to protect our nation's most vulnerable populations is now, and we know that our voices are louder together.

Join us at Hill Day 2017, October 2-3, the nation's largest behavioral advocacy event, to stand up and be heard on mental health and addictions.

[Register today.](#)

Fired up and ready to go now? Start honing your advocacy skills by taking action today on our [Unite4BH page](#).

MACMHB committee schedules, membership, minutes, and information go to our website at <https://www.macmhb.org/committees>

Have a Great Weekend!