
Michigan Rural Health Clinic Monthly Bulletin



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March 2023



Pictured with Jill are Alyssa Skolasky, Practice Manager, Bronson Lakeview Family Care Suite A, Suite B and Internal Medicine (Paw Paw); Carrie Conroy, Practice Manager, Bronson Lakeview Family Care Decatur, Suite G and Pediatrics (Paw Paw); Darcy Knapper, Practice Manager, Bronson Lakeview Family Care Bangor Bronson South Haven Family Med/Internal Med/Pediatrics; Kelsie Johnson, Practice Manager, Bronson Lakeview Family Care Blue Star (South Haven); and Pam Grosvenor, Director of Practice Operations, Bronson Healthcare Group

A Few Words From Jill:

I recently hit the road and had the privilege to tour and meet some of the hard-working practice managers at one of our rural health clinics, Bronson Lakeview Outpatient Care in Paw Paw, Michigan.

While there, I had the opportunity to ask them some questions and I hope their answers will shed insight into what Bronson Lakeview offers the community they serve and how their work can inspire other RHCs around the state. Here is some of what they had to share:

Jill: Thank you so much for having me today! Can you give me a little background on Bronson Lakeview and its role in the community after almost 85 years?

Bronson Lakeview: *Our southwestern Michigan non-profit hospitals have served the people of Van Buren County since the early 1900s at the lakeshore in South Haven and since 1939 in Paw Paw, both locations are part of the Bronson Healthcare system. Bronson Lakeview practices have served our rural health communities of Bangor, Decatur,*

Paw Paw, and South Haven by providing accessible healthcare resources to the residents of Van Buren and neighboring counties. This allows Bronson Lakeview and Bronson South Haven to care for patients and families in our rural communities that face health disparities due to poverty and transportation challenges to access primary healthcare, specialty services, and emergency care close to home.

Jill: What successes do you wish to continue?

Bronson Lakeview: *We would like to continue to provide exceptional healthcare (made easier) and to be the preferred healthcare system for healthcare within our rural communities. We focus on access to healthcare and continued enhancement of virtual offerings through Epic MyChart to allow the patient to access their medical record, schedule appointments, refill prescriptions, e-check in for their appointments, and improve opportunities to communicate with their healthcare team.*

Jill: What can you share about the quality of care you provide to your neighbors with other RHCs across the state?

Bronson Lakeview: *We are a Joint Commission-accredited organization and our primary care practices are designated Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH). The PCMH model helps us provide quality care using a team-based approach to coordinate care across our system, keep patients at the forefront and make quality improvement opportunities a priority utilizing the PDSA model. We utilize Press Ganey survey criteria to better understand how our patients feel about their experiences within our practice groups. We utilize data from Epic (EHR) to improve our safety, quality, and experience in patient care we provide reportable monthly data by the system, practice, and provider-specific levels. Our ambulatory teams include RN Ambulatory Care Managers, Licensed Medical Social Workers, and Pharmacists to further support patients and families in the community and link them to local, community resources.*

Jill: What does the future hold for your clinics?

Bronson Lakeview: *We would like to continue to grow and continue to offer quality, local healthcare to our patients and families in the rural Van Buren County communities. We would like to expand our availability of specialty practices within our rural communities to provide easier access to our patients without requiring them to travel great distances for needed specialty care.*

A big thank you to the Bronson Lakeview team for a wonderful site visit and for taking the time to speak with me. I know they will keep up their great work and I cannot wait to visit this RHC again in the future. For more information on Bronson Lakeview, please visit their [website](#).

Thanks,
Jill



Register for the 26th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference

Register today for the 26th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference taking place on Thursday, April 27th- Friday, April 28th at Soaring Eagle Resort in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

This year's theme is "Amplifying Rural Health Innovation" and we have planned a dynamic conference agenda. Some of the sessions will feature presenters discussing Rural Health Clinic topics affecting rural Michigan communities.

Rural Health Clinic agenda highlights include:

The Importance of Chronic Care Management in the Rural Health Setting presented by *Theresa Lounsbury, RN Community Care Coordinator, Mckenzie Health System*

Care Huddles: Leading the Shift from Fee to Value featuring *Julie Snyder, Senior Operations Specialist, Corewell Health*

Confidence at Survey featuring *Tressa Sacrey Director of Compliance and Education Health Services Associates, Inc.*

Elevating Quality and Satisfaction in Your RHC with PCMH featuring *Kristen Ogden, The Compliance Team*

Visit **Soaring Eagle's website** and enter room block code: **MCRH042523** when making your hotel reservation for the event. We look forward to seeing you in April!

[Click Here for the Registration Link and Full Agenda Details](#)

2023 Rural Health Professional of the Year Nominations are OPEN

This award is presented to an individual deserving of recognition for their efforts



in rural health in Michigan in honor of Loren O. Gettel.

An individual, by nomination by their peers, has carried out exemplary work in promoting health in rural areas, shown excellent leadership in the improvement of health care services to the rural areas of Michigan, and has made worthy contributions to the

improvement of health for the people in rural Michigan.

Though many are worthy, MCRH will announce the winner at our Michigan Rural Health Conference, on April 27th, 2023 at Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort.

The deadline to nominate is April 6, 2023, at 11:45 pm

[Click Here to Complete Your 2023 Rural Health Professional of the Year Nomination](#)



Michigan to Provide Updates to Medicaid Enrollees as Eligibility Requirements Restart in June

Medicaid beneficiaries will have to renew their coverage this year, starting in June, as Michigan resumes Medicaid eligibility redeterminations to comply with federal legislation.

Michiganders who no longer qualify for Medicaid will receive additional information about other affordable health coverage options available, including on HealthCare.gov. Affected Michiganders will be able to shop for and enroll in comprehensive health insurance as they transition away from Medicaid, and many Michiganders can purchase a plan for less than \$10 per month.

Renewals for traditional Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Plan will take place monthly starting in June 2023 and run through May 2024.

Monthly renewal notices will be sent three months prior to a beneficiaries' renewal date starting with June renewal dates. Beneficiaries can check their renewal

[Click Here for Full Details on 2023 Benefit Changes](#)

[Click Here to Read the Medicaid Press Release](#)

CMS.gov



Preparing for the end of the Public Health Emergency with the RHC-FQHC Provider Fact Sheet

The Public Health Emergency (PHE) is set to expire on May 11, 2023.

CMS published a Provider Fact Sheet on February 22, 2023, to prepare RHCs and FQHCs for operation after the PHE. Some flexibilities (waivers) were expanded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, while others will no longer be in effect. Please review the document to confirm your facility is in full compliance as we transition out of the PHE.

[Download the Complete RHC-FQHC Provider Fact Sheet from CMS](#)

CONTACT HSA for More Information:

- Visit [**the HSA**](#) website for a complete list of services
- Call HSA at 231-942-0244 to speak to a consultant today
- E-mail HSA at [**info@hsagroup.net**](mailto:info@hsagroup.net)

State Loan Repayment Program Application Period Begins

Applications for the 2023 [Michigan State Loan Repayment Program](#) (MSLRP) will be accepted from March 6-31 through the File Transfer Application System. Providers are strongly encouraged to [create an account](#) in the system before starting the application period.

The MSLRP assists employers in the recruitment and retention of medical, dental, and mental health primary care providers who continue to demonstrate their commitment to building long-term primary care practices in underserved communities designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas. Those selected will receive up to



\$300,000 in tax-free funds to repay their educational debt over a period of up to ten years of participation.

Priority will be given to applications from:

- Inpatient pediatric psychiatrists, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners.
- Genesee County applicants.
- Obstetric service providers working in northern Michigan.

The review process has been updated for this application period. Providers and employers are strongly encouraged to read more about the review process in the Selection Criteria, Application Review, and Final Phase Process section of the MSLRP website.

For more [information](#), contact [Paige Recker](#), Rural Access to Care Manager, at the Michigan Center for Rural Health.



MDHHS Releases Final Medicaid MMP-23-10, MMP 23-13, and MMP 23-14 Bulletins

The final Medicaid MMP 23-10, 23-13, and 23-14 bulletins were recently released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Medicaid Bulletin MMP 23-10 discusses Telemedicine Policy Post-COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and is issued on March 2, 2023. [Click here for the full MMP 23-10 bulletin.](#)

Medicaid Bulletin MMP 23-13 discusses changes to Medicaid Dental Coverage and is issued on March 2, 2023. [Click here for the full MMP 23-13 bulletin.](#)

Medicaid Bulletin MMP 23-14 discusses Updates to the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual; Medicaid Eligibility Requirements; Federal Public Health Emergency and is issued on March 2, 2023. [Click here for the full MMP 23-14 bulletin.](#)



Apply Today for the Nation Health Service Corps Loan

Repayment Program

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) is now accepting applications for three loan repayment programs.

Each program has a different award level and varying eligibility:

- [NHSC Loan Repayment Program](#) provides up to \$50,000 for a two-year service commitment.
- [NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program](#) provides up to \$75,000 for a three-year service commitment.
- [NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program](#) provides up to \$100,000 for a three-year service commitment.

In addition to tax-free loan repayment, you receive a competitive salary, and a chance to have a significant impact on an underserved community.

The application deadline for ALL programs is Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. ET.

Application Support is Also Available

Do you have questions about the NHSC application process? Our live webinar and Q&A session is the perfect opportunity to get your Loan Repayment Program questions answered by experienced program experts. Gain the confidence to navigate the application process with ease.

**NHSC Loan Repayment Application Assistance Webinar
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. ET**

RHC March News & Updates

Here are some of the topics impacting the RHC community in Michigan this month. Click on these links to read more:

- **ONGOING:** [The Michigan Health Council \(MHC\) Offers Five Virtual One-Hour Implicit Bias Training Courses](#)
- **HRSA WORKFORCE TRAINING FUNDING:** [New Funding Available for Training Nurses – Apply by April 27.](#)
- **RESOURCE:** [Register for Rural Suicide Prevention Workshops – March 21, May 23, and July 25](#)
- **ONGOING:** [HRSA Payment Program for RHC Buprenorphine-Trained Providers](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates and Resources

This a reminder that COVID-19 is still having an impact on our rural neighbors and those providing care and solutions. Please click on the links below for important information regarding the latest on vaccines, boosters, testing, and other recommendations:

- **RESOURCE:** [RHC Vaccine Confidence News and Information - UPDATED](#)
- **RESOURCE:** [One Stop Online for COVID Prevention and Treatment in Every County](#)
- **RESOURCE:** [COVID-19 Impact on Emergency Preparedness for RHCs](#)
- **RESOURCE:** [The Implications of Long COVID for Rural Communities](#)
- **UPDATE:** [MDHHS Medicaid Policy Bulletins](#)

- **UPDATE:** [MDHHS L-Letters Guidance](#)
- **ONGOING:** [Understanding the Federal COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates: Practical Considerations for Covered Employers](#)

NEW: Public Health Emergency (PHE) Information and Resources

[White House Extends PHE Until May 11, 2023](#)

[Guiding Rural Health Clinics at the End of the Public Health Emergency](#)

[Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\) COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers \(1135\) for Health Care Providers](#)

[UPDATED: Additional Information on 1135 Waivers](#)

[Kaiser Family Foundation Article on PHE Flexibilities](#)

[UPDATED: CMS Current Emergencies Page](#)

Click Here For
**RURAL MICHIGAN
 COVID-19
 RESOURCES** 

Contact:
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 MCRH's 2023
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