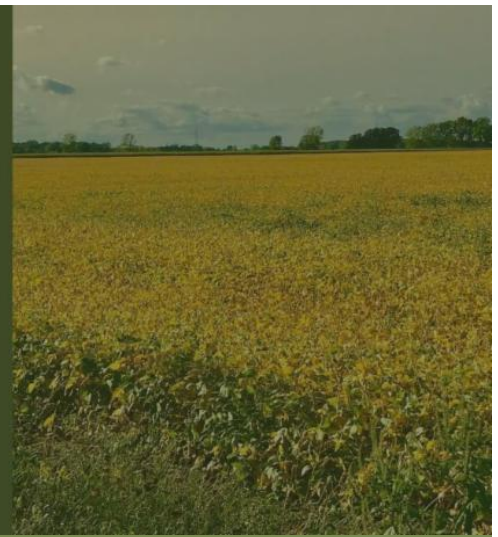




— Our Mission:

TO COORDINATE, PLAN,
AND ADVOCATE FOR
IMPROVED HEALTH FOR
MICHIGAN'S RURAL
RESIDENTS AND
COMMUNITIES.



MCRH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2024
Volume 5, Issue 1

Nominate the 2024 Rural Health Professional of the Year

Nomination Deadline Is March 1, 2024

Since 1994, the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) has celebrated an outstanding rural health professional for achievements they have directed to advance Michigan's rural health initiatives. The recipient is chosen through a nomination process and will be celebrated with a special award during the 27th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference on April 25, 2024, at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

"The Rural Health Professional of the Year Award" formally acknowledges someone deserving of recognition for their distinctive efforts to elevate rural health in Michigan. The award is granted to an individual who 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 to the people in rural Michigan.

If you know someone who fits this description – nominate them TODAY!

[Click Here for the Rural Health Professional of the Year
Nomination Form](#)

[Click Here for Additional Information](#)

**Partnership Opportunities Now Available
for the 27th Annual Michigan Rural Health
Conference**

27th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference



Consider becoming an exhibiting or sponsorship partner at the 27th Annual Michigan Rural Health Conference being held April 25-26, 2024 at Soaring Eagle Resort in Mt. Pleasant, MI.

We offer three exhibitor packages to help you reach attendees. You can also sponsor our charging stations, conference app, or Thursday evening reception entertainment to promote your brand.

If you have additional questions regarding partnerships for the Michigan Rural Health Conference, please contact Doug Siwek (siwekdou@msu.edu)

[Click Here to Download the Full Partnership Prospectus](#)

[Click Here for Submission Link](#)

Lunch and Learn on Loan Repayment Programs for Behavioral Health Professionals



Recently, MCRH Access to Care Manager, Paige Recker, was the featured presenter discussing resources and answering questions during a Lunch and Learn on Loan Repayment Programs for Behavioral Health Professionals.

The Northern Michigan Community Health Innovation Region's Recruit Behavioral Health Providers Action Team presented the event. View entirety of Paige's presentation below, and **please visit the MCRH Workforce Programs webpage** for more information.

[Click Here to Watch the Full Lunch and Learn Presentation](#)

MCRH EMS Programs Manager, Andrea Abbas, Interviewed for EMS World Article



EMS World recently released an in-depth article featuring Michigan Center for Rural Health EMS Programs Manager, Andrea Abbas, and President of the International Association of EMS Chiefs, Daniel Gerard. Andrea and Daniel detail their predictions for the year ahead – pinpointing the changes poised to reshape the EMS landscape.

[Click Here to Read the Full EMS World Article](#)

HPSA Updates for 2024



In 2024, HRSA will continue to inform the public about the availability of the complete HPSA designation list using the following two-step notification process: On or before May 1, 2024, HRSA will issue a Federal Register Notice with all HPSAs that are either designated or in “proposed for withdrawal” status.

The Michigan Primary Care Office will have until October 1, 2024, to submit new data and designation applications, before the October 14, 2024 data pull. This will allow HRSA time to review those submitted applications.

If you have any HPSA questions, please contact Paige Recker paige.recker@affiliate.msu.edu.

[Click Here for Health Workforce Data, Tools, and Dashboards](#)

Grant Opportunity: Registered Apprenticeships

REGISTERED
APPRENTICESHIP
MICHIGAN



The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity is seeking proposals for funding to provide career opportunities to underrepresented Michiganders through Registered Apprenticeships in non-traditional sectors and occupations,

including health care. Awards range from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

The application deadline is Wednesday, February 7.

[Click Here for Request Details and to Watch A Pre-Recorded Webinar](#)

January's Strength of Rural Spotlight: Catholic Charities West Michigan



Each month, the Michigan Center for Rural Health highlights people and organizations who uplift rural health through the Strength of Rural Spotlight Series. In January, MCRH spotlights the Catholic Charities West Michigan.

Catholic Charities West Michigan provides vital services to families and individuals in need. With 9 different offices covering over 50 counties, they are continuously adapting their programs to address the community's changing needs. They have recently expanded their services to rural areas.

Please contact MCRH Social Drivers of Health Manager, Laura Mispelon (laura.mispelon@affiliate.msu.edu), if you are interested in having your organization featured in an upcoming Strength of Rural Spotlight.

[Click Here to Read More About Catholic Charities West Michigan](#)

MDHHS Expands Medicaid Coverage to Include CHW Services and Releases Beginner Guide



The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently announced an expansion of Medicaid coverage effective Jan. 1, 2024 to include community health worker (CHW) services. The MDHHS also issued a final policy establishing this coverage for Medicaid fee-for-service and health plan enrollees.

MDHHS has created a CHW Beginner Guide containing more information on obtaining a National Provider Identifier, applying for the MI Medicaid CHW Registry and enrolling in the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS).

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

[Click Here to Download the CHW Beginner Guide](#)

Put Your Town On The Map: Consumers Energy Pitch Competition



The Consumers Energy Foundation is offering grant opportunities to help put your community on the map. They are seeking innovative ideas that will energize your town and create momentum that builds a stronger sense of community.

If you are selected, you will be invited to present to a panel of judges during the Small Town & Rural Development Conference on April 29, 2024.

The deadline to submit is February 16.

[Click Here for Complete Details](#)

2024 Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist Certification Workshop



Register today for the 2024 Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist Certification Workshop. This virtual workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 9, from 9 AM- 4 PM EST.

This certification is offered through the National Academy of Ambulance Compliance (NAAC) and is designed to provide a broad understanding of the rules and standards of EMS documentation. Students who successfully complete the final exam will receive a CADS certification.

The cost is per person \$40.00 plus taxes and fees. Financial assistance is available to rural agencies if needed.

[Click Here for Registration Details](#)

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Launching New Grant Programs in 2024



The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) has new grant programs launching in 2024. MDARD recently received over \$10 million in funding from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) program and \$1.8 million in state funding for the Food and Agriculture Supply Chain. The purpose of the RFSI program is to build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain, to provide more and better markets to small farms and food businesses, and to support the development of value-added products for consumers, fair prices, fair wages, and new and safe job opportunities.

Additionally, MDARD received \$2.9 million for a new program aimed at helping minority-owned food and agriculture ventures. MDARD hopes to set up this new program to help expand minority businesses across the state.

MDARD is now seeking public comment to identify statewide priorities by releasing an input survey. The input will help determine how and where to administer the funding to meet the highest need in Michigan within the parameters of the federal RFSI and new state funded programs.

[Click Here to Participate in the MDARD Industry Input Survey](#)

Summary of the CDC's Rural Town Hall Webinar



For all who attended or expressed interest in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Rural Town Hall: A Discussion of the Rural Public Health Strategic Plan, the CDC is pleased to share their rural public health efforts, mission, and a draft of its rural strategic plan.

Please find resources from the webinar such as CDC's **Rural Public Health-at-glance**, **Rural health mapping tool**, and RHIhub's **datasets for rural variables** and **definition of rural**.

PRiSMM Suicide Prevention Telehealth Toolkit



Preventing Suicide in Michigan Men (PRiSMM) is a 5-year CDC grant funded program aimed at reducing suicide in men ages 25 and older. PRiSMM's Suicide Prevention Telehealth Toolkit is a resource for providers to help strengthen access and delivery of suicide care.

To learn more about the program and the toolkit, please click the button below.

[Click Here to View the PRiSMM Toolkit](#)

Telehealth Grant Funding Opportunity: Behavioral Health Integration (BHI) Evidence Based Telehealth Network Program



Recently, HRSA announced a Telehealth Funding Opportunity to integrate behavioral health services into primary care settings using telehealth technology. HRSA will award approximately \$8.75 million to up to 25 grantees over a period of five years. Eligible applicants include non-profit entities that demonstrate they will provide services through a telehealth network.

The application is due March 22, 2024.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Communication Toolkit for Rural Providers Recently Updated



The Center for Rural Health (CRH), housed within the University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences, recently updated its Communication Toolkit. The toolkit is designed to help Critical Access Hospitals, Rural Health Clinics, public health departments, and other healthcare organizations in navigating the realm of communications. It has sections on communicating with a target audience, working with the media, and how to successfully use tools, such as social media and website analytics, to share information with the public. The toolkit is free and open to the public.

Marketing coordinators, public relations directors, social media marketers, communication managers, foundation directors, website specialists, and other similar positions can find helpful tips and advice in the toolkit.

[Click Here to Download the Communication Toolkit](#)

Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center Michigan Telehealth Reimbursement Guide



The Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center (UMTRC) recently released its Michigan Telehealth Reimbursement Guide. This guide provides a reimbursement overview including a payor matrix for Medicare, Medicaid, and most common private insurance providers.

The guide also details visit types, HIPPA software compliance, and useful information for RHCs and FQHCs.

[Click Here to Download the Full Michigan Telehealth Reimbursement Guide](#)

\$852,000 Awarded to Strengthen Michigan Rural Communities



Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced that 15 communities will The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's (LEO) Office of Rural Prosperity awarded \$852,000 to support 19 rural community projects across Michigan's ten Prosperity Regions through the Rural Readiness Grant Program.

The grant provides rural communities with up to \$50,000 to support collaborative planning and capacity initiatives. The 19 projects will address needs related to childcare; housing, development readiness, health and emergency preparedness; non-motorized transportation infrastructure; and general capacity-building activities for local, county and tribal governments, nonprofits, economic development organizations, community foundations, regional planning agencies and health service providers across the state.

[Click Here to Read More and View the Complete List of Rural Readiness Grant Projects](#)

Save The Date for Three Upcoming EMS Events

 Michigan Rural EMS Network

SAVE THE DATE FIRST RESPONDER MENTAL WELLNESS CONFERENCE

✔ Strategies and tools to help you thrive in your professional & personal life!

✔ International, national, and local presenters!

✔ The latest information and best practices!

April
16-17
2024



Location:
Delamar Hotel, Traverse City, MI

SAVE THE DATE

EMS EXPO 2024

 Eberhard Center, Grand Rapids

 May 2-4



Mark your calendars to attend the **Michigan Rural EMS Network's First Responder Mental Wellness Conference April 16-17** at the Delamar Hotel in Traverse City and the **Michigan EMS Expo** taking place May 2-4 at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids.

Just announced is the **EMS Quality Improvement and Data Summit at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls** taking place August 21-22.

Follow MCRH's social media and **subscribe to the EMS newsletter** for event and registration updates.

Upcoming MCRH Educational Events



Grand Rounds:

February 7, 2024, 10 AM-12 PM EST

Social Work Grand Rounds: Motivational Interviewing: Beyond The Basics

Speaker: Dr. Bernard Showers DSW, LCSW

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided for Social Workers

February 13, 2024, 12-1 PM EST

Social Work Behavioral Health Series Grand Rounds: Clinical Assessments for Behavioral Health Care

Speaker: Gennie Groover, LLMSW

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided for Social Workers and Addiction Professionals

February 22, 2024, 12-1 PM EST

Pediatrics Grand Rounds: E-cigarette Prevention & Cessation in Youth

Speaker: Brittany Tayler MD, FAAP

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided for Social Workers, Nurses, Physicians, and Community Health Workers

Project ECHO:

February 21, 2024, 12-1 PM EST

Infectious Disease ECHO: *Topic To Be Announced Soon!*

Speaker: Dr. Peter Gulick
[Register Here](#)
CME Provided

EMS:

February 21, 2024, 6-7 PM EST

EMS Director Panel: The Impact of Culture on EMS Workforce

Speakers: Rick Dupon Denton Twp. EMS; Nick Lemcool East Bay Ambulance Service; Kathryn Dunklow Elmwood Twp. Fire & Rescue

[Register Here](#)
CME Provided

NEW: [Please visit the MCRH EMS Continuing Education Website](#) for the complete 2024 EMS Webinar Schedule

ADDITIONAL NEWS & RESOURCES:

HOSPITAL PROGRAMS:

[2024 Hospital Performance Improvement Virtual Conference - Register by January 31](#)

[Targeted Technical Assistance for Rural Hospitals Program – Apply by January 31](#)

[Medicare Interoperability Deadlines and New Requirements for Hospitals](#)

FUNDING:

[Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program | Rural Development \(usda.gov\)](#)

[HRSA Behavioral Health Integration Evidence Based Telehealth Network Program – Apply by March 22](#)

[SAMHSA Announces Funding Opportunity for Rural EMS Training - Apply by March 20](#)

[HRSA Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program - Apply by February 26](#)

[New Funding Opportunity for Planning Rural Residencies – Apply by February 12](#)

TELEHEALTH:

[UMTRC “Youth Mental Health Crisis: Introducing Digital Mental Health Resources in Schools.” Webinar - January 29](#)

SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH:

[The U.S. Playbook to Address Social Determinants of Health](#)

[National Institutes of Health Weight Loss Program for Rural Adults](#)

EMS:

[Women in Emergency Services \(WiES\) Wednesday Podcast - Click Here to Listen](#)

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER:

[Opioid Settlement Resource Center - The Michigan Association of Counties \(micounties.org\)](#)

[Opioid Settlement Overview Table](#)

[Recovery-Ready Workplace Toolkit for Businesses](#)

[Model Recovery Ready Workplaces Act](#)

WORKFORCE:

[CMS Accepting Applications for New Physician Residency Slots – Apply by March 31](#)

[CMS.gov Rural Residency Program](#)

VETERANS:

Questions about VA healthcare? Attend the Veterans Healthcare Workgroup Monthly Meeting on the Second Monday of Every Month at 1 PM EST (Zoom Link)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Medical Leadership in Disaster Preparedness and Response Virtual Conference on February 7-8

Apply for the EPA's Small Communities, Big Challenges Competition - Deadline is January 31

Children's Safety Network Hosts Rural Webinar

Updated Catalog of Value-Based Initiatives for Rural Providers

New Birthing Friendly Hospital Designation Available on Care Compare Website

New Map Shows Rural Emergency Hospitals

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MCRH'S 2024 ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSORS



Is your organization interested in becoming a 2024 MCRH Organizational Sponsor? Please contact Doug Siwek (siwekdou@msu.edu) for more information on this branding opportunity.

[Click to View More Organizational Sponsor Details](#)

[Click Here for the 2024 MCRH Organizational Sponsor Form](#)

[Visit the MCRH Website](#)

Please visit and follow MCRH's social media channels for more news and information:



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