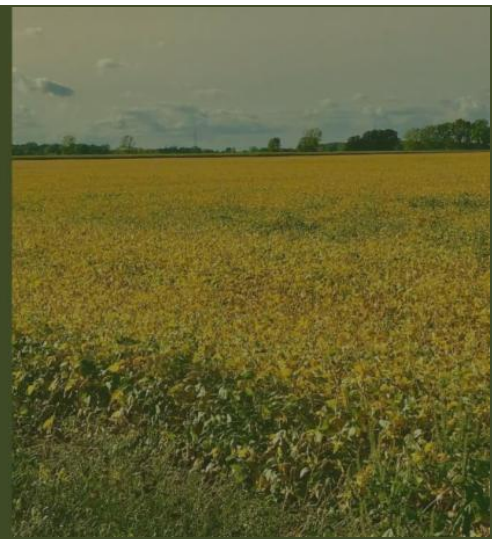




Our Mission:

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



MCRH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2024
Volume 5, Issue 7

Register Today for the 2024 EMS Quality Improvement and Data Summit - August 21-22 at Boyne Mountain Resort



AUGUST 21-22, 2024
BOYNE MOUNTAIN RESORT

MCRH EMS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND DATA SUMMIT

WHY ATTEND:

This conference is designed for EMS professionals looking to increase their knowledge of data reporting and quality improvement practices.

Each session will offer content and expertise from local and national experts in the EMS data reporting and QI disciplines.



DR. CLAY MANN
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR -
NEMESIS TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE CENTER

FEATURED SPEAKERS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR



DR. JEFF JARVIS
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER -
FORT WORTH (TX.) OFFICE OF THE
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Register today for the 2024 EMS Quality Improvement and Data Summit, which will be held August 21-22 at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls, MI.

This conference is for EMS professionals seeking to improve their knowledge of data reporting and quality improvement practices. Other key Summit objectives include:

- Learning from national subject matter experts about quality initiatives
- Networking with peers around quality improvement and EMS-relevant data
- Showcasing nine quality improvement projects from rural EMS agencies
- Learning about National EMS Quality Alliance (NEMSQA) data reporting and applications

Exhibitor sponsorships, in limited quantities, are also available! Please click the button below for complete details on registering for the Summit and becoming an exhibitor.

[Visit the EMS QI and Data Summit Website for More Details and Registration Information](#)

Call For Presentations: 2024 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference

2024 MICHIGAN CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL CONFERENCE

The Ripple Effect: Reimagining the Possible

November 7-8 • Park Place Hotel • Traverse City



Michigan Center for Rural Health is looking for presentations for the 2024 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference!

Proposals are welcomed for **60-minute presentations** that are interactive and dynamic, feature best practices in rural health, and will encompass this year's theme: ***The Ripple Effect: Reimagining the Possible.***

MCRH is interested in all topics relevant to MI Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs), but it is particularly interested in topics related to the focus areas below.

Innovative Strategies for CAHs to Succeed in the Evolving Rural Health Landscape:

- Leveraging Digital Health and Technology to Advance Patient Care
- Best Practices Around Patient Safety & Quality
- Improving Access to Behavioral & Mental Health
- Success in Alternative Payment Models

- "Hot" Operational Topics

Workforce Solutions:

- Success in Employee Engagement and Morale
- Collaborative Approaches to Increasing Rural Healthcare Workforce

Additional Topics:

- CAHs & Rural Health Clinics Linkages
- Legislative Priorities for Rural Health
- Social Drivers of Health Resources and Successes

Please submit your proposal by August 2!

[Click Here to Submit A Presentation Proposal](#)

[Download the Full Call for Presentation PDF](#)

2024 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference Partnerships Available



2024 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference

November 7-8, 2024, Park Place – Traverse City, MI

Why Exhibit: The Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference provides the single most targeted opportunity to reach C-level executives with your organization's message, products, services, and educational outreach efforts. MCRH invites three guests (CEO, CFO, CNO, and Quality Manager) from each of the 35 CAHs to discuss relevant issues, network, and disseminate information.

EXHIBITOR PACKAGES

Includes the Bronze Package PLUS:

- Recognition as **GOLD** Sponsor
- **2 Additional** Complimentary Registrations
- Recognition as a **BREAKFAST SPONSOR**
- **One** Pre-Recorded Video (up to 2 minutes) that will be included in the Safe Travels Email before the event

GOLD
\$2250

Includes the Bronze Package PLUS:

- Recognition as **SILVER** Sponsor
- **1 Additional** Complimentary Registration
- Recognition as **SNACK/BREAK SPONSOR**

SILVER
\$1750

Includes the Bronze Package PLUS:

- Recognition as **BRONZE** Sponsor
- **1** Complimentary Registration
- Participant List before the event
- **1** Exhibit Table
- Meals Included

BRONZE
\$1350



Charging Station - \$750
(1 Sponsorship Available)

Your logo will be displayed prominently by each charging station for maximum visibility!



Official Conference App - \$650
(Limited Sponsorships Available)

Keep your brand in front of this year's attendees as they share photos, engage in live chat, and keep up to date on the agenda through the app!



Entertainment Sponsor - \$500
(Limited Sponsorships Available)

Have your logo placed prominently near the musicians, logo recognition on CAH slides, and have your organization officially announced during the reception.

Join the Michigan Center for Rural Health as an event partner at this year's Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Conference, November 7-8, at Park Place in Traverse City, Michigan.

Why Exhibit: The Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference provides the single most targeted opportunity to reach C-level executives with your organization's message, products, services, and educational outreach efforts. MCRH invites three guests (CEO, CFO, CNO, and Quality Manager) from each CAH to discuss relevant issues, network, and disseminate information.

[Click Here for Partnership Registration](#)

July's Strength of Rural Spotlight: National Kidney Foundation of Michigan and MCRH Partner to Increase Early

Detection of Chronic Kidney Disease



NATIONAL KIDNEY
FOUNDATION®

of 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 July, MCRH spotlights our partnership with the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan to provide resources and information on Chronic Kidney Disease.

Since February 2024, the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM) and MCRH have been working to increase awareness of the importance of early detection and management of CKD in rural health clinics (RHCs), with a focus on reaching high-risk Medicaid-eligible populations.

In Michigan, **1 in 7 adults have chronic kidney disease (CKD)**. However, most of them are unaware of it. The aging population, high rates of chronic conditions, and limited access to specialty care puts people in rural areas at greater risk. Rural health providers are essential to increasing the early detection of CKD and educating their patients to improve health outcomes.

During this “CKD learning collaborative,” four RHCs from McLaren and Aspire Rural Health systems participated in clinical education and developed action plans to integrate CKD testing into their daily workflows. The learning collaborative series spans four sessions aimed at equipping healthcare practitioners and office staff with essential knowledge and tools for effective CKD detection and management.

The clinics have made practice changes, such as updating order sets to screen patients with hypertension, using easy-to-read educational materials to educate patients about kidney disease risk, and ensuring clinical documentation of CKD diagnosis.

Stay tuned for a new “CKD Rural Health Toolkit” from MCRH for ways to improve CKD care at your location.

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 the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan's Work](#)

The Northern Michigan Opioid Response Consortium Successfully Co-Presents First Ever Michigan Jail Release Simulation Event



MCRH partners, the Northern Michigan Opioid Response Consortium (NMORC), successfully hosted the first-ever Jail Release Simulation held in Michigan recently in Traverse City. The event was co-presented with Before During After Incarceration (BDAI) and Networks Northwest.

The purpose of the event was to gain an understanding of the significant obstacles faced by individuals as they are released from incarceration and return to their communities. To walk in the shoes of one returning home gives invaluable insight for professionals tasked with helping these individuals achieve a successful reentry.

Please take a moment to read a summary of the day below from our partners at the Rural Innovation Exchange. Congratulations to the NMORC team, BDAI, and Northwest Networks on an amazing event!

[Click Here to Read About the Jail Release Simulation Event](#)

Congratulations to the 2024 EMS Leadership Academy Graduates



The 2024 EMS Leadership Academy was recently held at Northern Michigan University's Northern Center in Marquette, MI.

12 EMS professionals from around the state worked to complete leadership coursework focused on EMS leadership best practices. Leadership Academy graduates will enter MCRH's EMS leadership network providing the tools and resources needed for continued professional growth and development.

Congratulations to the following EMS Leadership Academy graduates:

- Alli Burke - **Marshall Ambulance**
- Angel Grondin - **Midland County Juvenile Detention**
- Brittany Sopha - **MMR**
- Cody Mesnard - **Kinross EMS**
- Crystal McKay - **Ogemaw County EMS**

- Dan O'Rourke - Livingston County EMS
- Paul Boss - Northern Bay Ambulance
- Rob Letherman - Portage DPS Fire Division
- Scott Hankinson - Marshall Ambulance
- Sean Bowers - Ogemaw County EMS
- Tim Wilmoth - Tri-Hospital EMS
- Travis Helmer - Portage DPS Fire Division

Thanks to SafeTech Solutions for providing a well-designed and informative program for our participants!

NEW: Telehealth Webinar Explores Rural Healthcare Through Remote Patient Monitoring - August 13

Telehealth Webinar:

Transforming Rural Healthcare through Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)



SPEAKER:

Kara Massa

Director of Clinical Programs - Higi



Tuesday, August 13, 12 PM – 1 PM

Join Kara as she shares insight into the Michigan Center for Rural Health's Enhancing Remote Patient Monitoring in Independent Rural Hospitals project. Along with covering the basics of RPM and best practices of RPM in rural settings, Kara will provide an in-depth walkthrough of how three rural independent Michigan Hospitals implemented RPM during an 18-month pilot funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.



Scan the QR Code to Register

Please send questions to Paige Recker
paige.recker@affiliate.msu.edu



MCRH is excited to welcome Kara Massa, Director of Clinical Programs at Higi, where she leads the Higi Care Everyday Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) Patient Engagement Team. During this webinar event, Kara will share her insights into MCRH's RPM project.

Funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, this 18-month project was introduced and implemented in three Michigan hospitals. Be sure to secure your spot today.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Kalkaska Memorial Health Center Receives Going PRO Talent Fund Award



The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) just announced more than 300 Michigan businesses will receive a combined \$17.8 million from cycle 2 of the Going PRO Talent Fund (Talent Fund) to boost workforce development across the state.

MCRH congratulates Kalkaska Memorial Hospital on receiving funding to internally bolster its workforce efforts.

The Talent Fund provides businesses with the resources they need to train, develop, and retain current and newly hired employees. Since its launch in 2014, the initiative has supported high-skill, in-demand job training for more than 210,000 Michiganders, including this awards cycle.

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

IHI Open School Courses for Michigan Critical Access Hospital Quality Network (MICAQH QN) Members



**Institute for
Healthcare
Improvement**

Michigan Center of Rural Health encourages MICAQH QN members to complete courses from the Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI). Upon completion, attendees will receive a Basic Certificate in Patient Safety and Quality. These courses are free to MICAQH QN members.

For more information and to register, please contact Amanda St. Martin, Hospital Programs Manager at amanda.saintmartin@affiliate.msu.edu

[Click Here to View 2024 IHI Open School Details](#)

New Toolkit from RHIhub: Chronic Disease Management

Rural Chronic Disease Management Toolkit



RHIhub recently released its Rural Chronic Disease Management Toolkit.

The modules in this toolkit contain resources and information focused on developing, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining rural programs for the management of chronic disease. The toolkit covers common conditions such as diabetes, COPD, heart disease, arthritis, chronic kidney disease, cancer, obesity, and chronic pain.

This toolkit was developed in collaboration with NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis.

[Click Here to Learn More About the Toolkit](#)

Digital Literacy Classes Bring New Opportunities for Individual Growth



Digital Skills Training

Building digital literacy across generations

Connected Nation (CN) recently visited the Michigan Works West Central facility in Big Rapids to host one of its first in-person Digital Skills Training sessions of 2024.

CN, in partnership with AT&T, created this digital skills training program to provide structured digital literacy training for individuals of all ages, with the goal of helping them navigate the digital world with confidence. By making resources like this accessible, communities can ensure that everyone benefits from the digital revolution.

CN partners with local community organizations, such as Michigan Works and other nonprofits, to reach those who need help most. The training is offered at no cost to

participants and partner organizations.

If you are interested in bringing these classes to your community, you can head to the CN Digital Skills Training webpage linked below and click on the Interest Form to find out how to register your organization.

[Click Here to Learn More About Digital Skills Training](#)

Proposed New Policies Look to Increase Access to Care and Advance Health Equity



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is proposing policies to increase access to care and advance health equity.

The steps include proposing exceptions to the Medicaid clinic services "four walls" requirement, codifying 12 months of continuous eligibility for children in Medicaid and CHIP, adding payments to Indian Health Services and tribal facilities for high-cost drugs, expanding hospital quality programs to include equity measures, and supporting individuals leaving incarceration to enroll and maintain Medicare coverage.

CMS also proposes to update OPPS payment rates for CY 2025 for hospitals that meet applicable quality reporting requirements by 2.6%. This update is based on the projected hospital market basket percentage increase of 3%, reduced by 0.4 percentage points for the productivity adjustment.

For the first time, CMS proposes baseline health and safety requirements for hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) for obstetrical services. These include standards for organization, staffing, care delivery, emergency readiness, patient transfer protocols, and staff training on maternal health practices and cultural competencies.

[Click Here to VIEW the CY 2025 OPPS/ASC Payment System Proposed Rule](#)

[Click Here to DOWNLOAD the CY 2025 OPPS/ASC Payment System Fact Sheet](#)

Apply Today for HRSA's Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) - Workforce Expansion Program (WEP)



HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce aims to increase the supply of nurses in rural and underserved areas, specifically in acute and long-term care settings. The Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) - Workforce Expansion Program (WEP) enhances nursing education and clinical practice through additional training of associate and baccalaureate degree nursing students.

Through this funding opportunity, HRSA will award approximately \$4.7 million to up to five grantees over four years.

Eligible applicants include:

- Accredited schools of nursing
- Entities that offer associate degrees in nursing, such as community colleges
- Hospitals and nurse-managed health centers
- Nursing homes and hospice facilities
- Federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics
- Native American tribal governments and organizations

Applications are now being accepted until Friday, July 26.

[Click Here For More Details](#)

Register Today for the Healthy Safety Net Symposium - September 5



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan will host the 14th annual Healthy Safety Net Symposium on Thursday, September 5, from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing. There is no cost to participate.

The event is open to the leaders of Michigan's free clinics, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Rural Health Centers, hospitals, public health providers, school-based health centers, and other safety-net healthcare organizations.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Catch Up On More Rural Health News Every Month With These Two Newsletters



Rural Health Clinic Monthly Bulletin

The latest news and information geared toward Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) in Michigan.

[Click Here to Read The Latest Issue](#)

NMORC Newsletter

Updates and reminders regarding NMORC efforts to support and promote Substance and Opioid Use Disorder events, resources, and information.



[Click Here to Read the Latest Issue](#)

Upcoming MCRH Educational Events



Grand Rounds:
August 13, 2024, 12 - 1 PM EST

Social Work Behavioral Health Series Grand Rounds: Documentation in Behavioral Healthcare

Speaker: Gennie Groover, LLMSW

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided for Social Workers

Project ECHO:

July 30, 2024, 12-1 PM EST

One Health ECHO: Leveraging Human, Animal, and Environmental Health Partners to Keep Michigan Healthy Series #1

Speakers: Chad Shaw, BBA, Health Officer/Environmental Health Director, Ionia County Health Department, and Justine O'Malley, DVM, MPH, Emergency Management Veterinary Manager, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development

[Register Here](#)

CE and Certificate of Completion are Free

EMS:

July 29, 2024, 12-1 PM EST

EMS Pediatric Medical Review

Speaker: Allison Biliti, EMT-P, EMS-IC, Upper Southeast Region Coordinator, MDHHS EMS Section

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided

ADDITIONAL NEWS & RESOURCES:

FUNDING

[USDA Rural Utilities Service Broadband Technical Assistance – Apply by August 20](#)

TELEHEALTH:

[Building Michigan's State Broadband Plan](#)

[VIDEO: How Broadband Access Positively Impacts the Growing American Workforce](#)

[2024 State Policy Agenda for Telehealth Innovation](#)

PRIMARY CARE:

[Proposed Updates to Medicare Outpatient Payments for Calendar Year 2025 – Comment by September 9](#)

[CMS Announces Proposed Changes to Medicare Home Health Program – Comments due August 26](#)

[Rural Healthcare Provider Transition Project - Apply by August 15](#)

[Medicare Advantage Plan Growth in Rural America: Availability of Supplemental Benefits](#)

SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH:

[Michigan Improving Cardiovascular Health \(MICH\) Learning Collaborative Session #2 - September 20](#)

[Engaging Policymakers for Healthier Communities | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

[Healthy People 2030 Webinar Recording: Planning for Individual and Community Health](#)

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

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:

[Statewide Investment Helps Youth Explore Future Careers In Michigan](#)

[Mental Health in the Rural Workplace](#)

[Mobilizing Health Care Workforce via Telehealth](#)

VETERANS:

[Veterans Mental Health Copay Exemption - Cleland-Dole Act](#)

[VA Benefits that Pass on to Family Members - VIDEO](#)

[15 Things Veteran Service Officers Want You To Know - Click Here to Take a Free Course](#)

[Find Your County's Veteran Service Officers](#)

[Updated Veterans Educational Videos from the IREACH Program](#)

[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:

[2024 Physician Fee Schedule Webinar Recording](#)

[CMS Creates New Prescription Drug Resource Hub](#)

[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



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of Michigan





People-first places.



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](#)

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