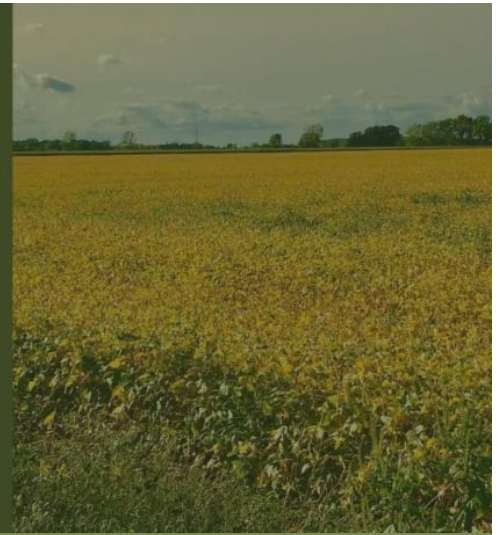




Our Mission:

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



MCRH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 2023
Volume 4, Issue 11

Inside the November MCRH Newsletter:

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- Sparrow Clinton Hospital and Sparrow Carson Hospital Chief Nursing Officer, Mariah Hesse, is Michigan's 2023 National Rural Health Day Community Star
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- PPS Hospitals Receive 'A' Grades from The Leapfrog Group
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- And much, much more

2023 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference Wrap Up



MCRH would like to thank all of the attendees, exhibitors, and Park Place Hotel and Conference Center staff in Traverse City for making the 2023 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference memorable!

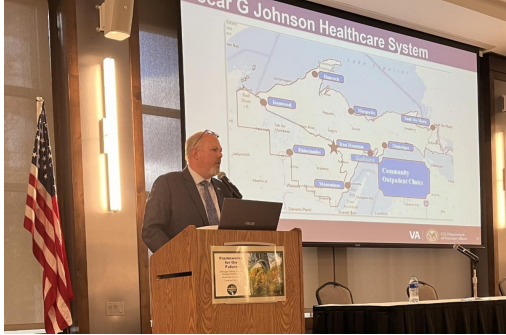
A special thank you goes to the wonderfully insightful speakers who brought useful information and ideas to share with our attendees.

This year's speakers included:

-Brock Slabach, Chief Operations Officer,
National Rural Health Association

-Jim Yates, IREACH Project Director,
Michigan Center for Rural Health





-John Foss, Vice President of Operations,
Trinity Health Shelby Hospital

-John Shealey, Medical Center Director,
Oscar G Johnson Va Medical Center

-Melanie Brim, President and CEO,
Michigan Health Council



-Dr. Mark Hamed, Medical Director,
McKenzie Health System

-Rebecca Stoliker, Director of Nursing
Services, **McKenzie Health System**

-Jeremy Cannon, Chief Nursing Officer,
Kalkaska Memorial Health Center



-Darren Cook, Vice President of Recovery
Services, **Magnet Solutions**

-Rochelle Dahmen, Director, **Eide Bailly**

A BIG Thank You to the 2023 Michigan Critical Access Conference Exhibitors:

-Crystal Barter, Director of Programs and
Services, Michigan Center for Rural Health

- ARS / Magnet Solutions
- CareCulture
- Cepheid
- CMU Rural Health Equity
Institute
- Community Infusion Solutions
- Coverys
- Design Collaborative
- Eide Bailly, LLP
- EZ-ERC
- HELP Financial
- Molina Healthcare of Michigan
- MPHI/MDHHS
- Net Revenue
- Old National Bank
- Outset Medical
- Psychiatric Medical Care
- Strategic Services Group
- The Rybar Group
- UltraGroup Healthcare
- Wipfli LLP

-Andrew Heberling, Attorney, **Hall, Render,
Killian, Heath & Lyman, PC**

-Darcy Donnelly, Director of Nursing,
Aspirus Health

-Joni Erkkila, Senior Human Resources
Business Partner, **Aspirus Health**

-Mike Berendsohn, EMS Director, **Kalkaska
Memorial Health Center**

-Julia Harbuck-Valley, Quality Manager,
Scheurer Health

-Allison Holbrook, Clinic Quality Supervisor,
**Helen Newberry Joy Hospital &
Healthcare Center**

Downloads of all 2023 Michigan Critical Access
Hospital Conference presentations can be
found [HERE](#)

We appreciate your support!

We look forward to a great CAH Conference in
2024.

MCRH Hosts Successful Silent Auction Fundraiser Supporting OsteoCHAMPS



MCRH wishes to thank teams from 11 Michigan Critical Access Hospitals who donated a Silent Auction Basket during the 2023 Michigan Critical Access Hospital Conference recently held at the Park Place Hotel in Traverse City.

The entire MCRH staff wishes to extend our gratitude for helping to make this fulfilled fundraiser for the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine **OsteoCHAMPS** program an unmitigated success.

Through this combined effort, our goals were met to help send aspiring rural high school students to next summer's OsteoCHAMPS summer camp.

Once again, we want to thank our silent auction donors and basket winners for helping provide a pathway to a healthcare career for aspirational rural-based young scholars!

Mariah Hesse is Michigan's 2023 National Rural Health Day Community Star



MCRH congratulates NOSORH's 2023 National Rural Health Day Community Star from Michigan, Mariah Hesse, Chief Nursing Officer at Sparrow Clinton Hospital and

Sparrow Carson Hospital!

Mariah, a lifelong rural resident, has not only made significant contributions to Sparrow Clinton Hospital but has made significant contributions to Michigan's rural health infrastructure through her role as President of the Michigan Critical Access Hospital Quality Network (MICAH QN), a position she has held since 2018. In addition, her contributions extend beyond the State of Michigan, with Mariah serving on numerous National committees that help shape the patient safety and quality landscape for Critical Access Hospitals across the Nation.

Mariah has made many contributions to Sparrow Clinton Hospital in her tenure, with some highlights including leading a journey to ACCN Pathway to Excellence and increasing access to care by leading the implementation of many new specialty services.

As MICAH QN President, Mariah has grown the Network into a Nationally recognized Quality Network, with Michigan being recognized by the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) as a Top 10 State for Quality Reporting and Performance since 2015.

Crystal Barter, Director of Programs & Services at the MCRH, noted that "while Mariah's professional accolades are impressive, it's her personal commitment to supporting others by always being the first to raise her hand to share, mentor, and learn alongside other CAH leaders that make her the epitome of what we recognize as our nominee for the NOSORH Community Star award in 2023".

Congratulations, Mariah, on this tremendous honor!

For Mariah's full Community Star profile, [please click here](#) and click on the State of Michigan when arriving at the website.

MCRH Among 48 Organizations Awarded Michigan Health Endowment Fund Healthy Aging Grants

MCRH Project to Develop an EMS Health Professional Shortage Area

**MICHIGAN HEALTH
ENDOWMENT FUND**

The **Health Fund** has awarded a new round of grants with impacts across many dimensions of health for Michigan communities.

The 48 funded initiatives will support older adults and their caregivers, engage changemakers in health equity and access, leverage close community partnerships to drive wide-reaching efforts in community health, and more.

MCRH has been awarded a Special Projects and Emerging Ideas grant totaling \$277,497. The funding will be used to develop a methodology to understand the EMS Workforce Shortage, providing a data-driven approach to allocate resources across the state effectively, leading to improved service delivery and potential policy changes.

Over the next 18 months, MCRH will use this Health Fund grant to leverage relationships with key stakeholders, and in-house expertise, to develop an EMS

Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) methodology. A HPSA designation identifies an area, population, or facility experiencing a shortage of health care services. As it currently stands, there is no designation to identify shortages of pre-hospital care. Developing this HPSA designation will bring awareness and understanding to the pre-hospital provider workforce disparities in rural communities across the state of Michigan.

Other organizations awarded funding with an emphasis on improving Michigan's rural health include:

- *Michigan Disability Rights Coalition Community Connections for Assistive Technology* — \$378,417
- *Michigan State University Virtual Connections: Rural Health through Digital Literacy* — \$427,397
- *Region VII Area Agency on Aging Rural Community Care Transitions with Transportation* — \$500,000
- *Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Supporting CBOs to Participate in CIE Using POs* — \$500,000
- *Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Collaborative Linkages for Older Veterans* — \$496,850
- *Michigan Health Council Regional Extension Centers for Community-Based Organizations* — \$249,462
- *Michigan Department of Health and Human Services CCBHC Demonstration Expansion Technical Assistance & Support* — \$500,000

[Click Here for the Full Health Fund List of Grant Awardees](#)

Michigan Rural Hospitals Recognized by The Chartis Group's 2023 Performance Leadership Awards



Presented annually as part of the National Rural Health Day celebration, The Performance Leadership Awards recognize top-quartile performance among rural hospitals in Quality, Outcomes, and Patient Perspective. Award winners are determined by the results of the **Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX**. Rural MI Hospitals were well represented in the 2023 awards with **13 receiving recognition for Quality, 20 receiving recognition for outcomes, and 15 receiving recognition for Patient Perspective**. Trinity Health Shelby Hospital was recognized for all three categories!

For Quality, the following Rural MI Hospitals were recognized:

Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital
Ascension Borgess -Lee Hospital
Aspirus Iron River Hospital
Aspirus Ontonagon Hospital
Baraga County Memorial Hospital
Deckerville Community Hospital
Hills & Dales General Hospital
Kalkaska Memorial Health Center
McLaren Caro Region
McLaren Thumb Region
Munising Memorial Hospital
Sparrow Carson Hospital
Trinity Health Shelby Hospital

For Outcomes, the following Rural MI Hospitals were recognized:

Ascension Borgess Allegan Hospital
Ascension Borgess-Lee Hospital
Bronson LakeView Hospital
Dickinson Hospital- Iron Mountain
Hillsdale Community Health Center
McLaren Central Michigan
McLaren Lapeer Region
Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital
Munson Healthcare Grayling Hospital
Munson Healthcare Manistee Hospital
MyMichigan Medical Center Alma
MyMichigan Medical Center Alpena
Oaklawn Hospital
OSF St Francis Hospital
ProMedica Charles and Virginia Hickman Hospital
Sparrow Eaton Hospital
Sparrow Ionia Hospital
Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial
Three Rivers Health Hospital
Trinity Health Shelby Hospital

For Patient Experience, the following Rural MI Hospitals were recognized:

Ascension Standish Hospital
Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital
Bronson LakeView Hospital
Eaton Rapids Medical Center
Harbor Beach Community Hospital
Mackinac Straits Health System
Marlette Regional Hospital
Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital
MyMichigan Medical Center Clare
MyMichigan Medical Center Gladwin
Scheurer Hospital
Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital
Sparrow Carson Hospital
Trinity Health Shelby Hospital
UP Health System - Portage Main Campus

Congratulations to all the awardees.

[Click Here to View the Complete List](#)

Rural Michigan PPS Hospitals Recognized for Outstanding Safety



Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades are assigned to nearly 3,000 general acute-care hospitals across the nation twice annually. The Safety Grade uses up to 22 national patient safety measures from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, and information from other supplemental data sources, to produce a single letter grade representing a hospital's overall performance in keeping patients safe from preventable harm and medical errors. The Safety Grade methodology has been peer reviewed and published in the [Journal of Patient Safety](#).

With the Safety Grade, The Leapfrog Group aims to educate and encourage consumers to consider safety when selecting a hospital for themselves or their families. In addition, the Safety Grade will foster strong market incentives for hospitals to make safety a priority. Safety Grades are publicly reported at HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

The following rural Michigan PPS hospitals received an 'A' grade:

Ascension St Joseph Hospital
Corewell Health Big Rapids Hospital
Corewell Health Big Rapids Hospital
Corewell Health Ludington Hospital
Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital
Munson Medical Center
MyMichigan Medical Center Alpena
ProMedica Charles and Virginia Hickman Hospital
ProMedica Coldwater Regional Hospital

MCRH congratulates you on your dedication to safety in your organizations!

WEBINAR: Northwest CHIR's Behavioral Health

Initiative Capacity Building & Action Summit - December 7, 2023

THE NWCHIR'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Invites You!



Register today to join the **Northwest CHIR's** Behavioral Health Initiative Summit on December 7 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. The event is virtual.

The day is designed to grow capacity and action to improve behavioral health. Be prepared to become inspired to take action as you learn from the event's amazing Action Teams.

Highlights of the Summit agenda include:

- Rob Stennet, an accomplished filmmaker and campaign designer, will host the morning keynote to share a powerful storytelling framework that you can apply across various mediums.
- The three Action Teams focused on reducing stigma in the region will host a mini-workshop where you will learn techniques for reducing stigma in the stories you tell and in your daily interactions.
- Learn updates about the new Grand Traverse Crisis Wellness Center. See the architectural drawings, and hear about the planned programs and services.
- The three Action Teams focused on recruiting and retaining behavioral health providers will share what they have learned about how to recruit providers to the region. You will also have an opportunity to learn practical techniques for building a healthy work environment designed to retain staff.

Get ready to network, learn, build local capacity, and identify ways to integrate these resources and ideas into your practices and organizations.

[Click Here To Register](#)

**Interested in Becoming an NHSC Site? Check Out
the MCRH Workforce/NHSC Resources Page for
More Information**



Retaining and recruiting can be challenging, especially in a tight labor market. Being a National Health Service Corps (NHSC) site, can help with recruitment.

As an NHSC-approved site, loan repayment assistance can help to improve future employees' financial health which can impact not only the recruiting of health

professionals but employee retention as well. How does a site though become an NHSC site?

At MCRH, we have created presentations and PDFs for each section of the NHSC Site Application. Please review the resources of the recordings contained on the webpage before applying to be an NHSC Site.

For more information on becoming an NHSC Site please contact MCRH Access to Care Manager, Paige Recker, at paige.recker@affiliate.msu.edu.

Visit the MCRH NHSC Resources Page

November's Strength of Rural Spotlight: Helen Newberry Joy Hospital & Healthcare Center



Each month, the Michigan Center for Rural Health highlights people and organizations who uplift rural health through the Strength of Rural Spotlight Series. In November, MCRH spotlights the Helen Newberry Joy Hospital & Healthcare Center. The following is an excerpt of their submission.

Connecting Patients to their Providers from the Comforts of Home with Remote Patient Monitoring

At **Helen Newberry Joy Hospital (HNJH)**, our commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare experiences led us to explore innovative ways of bringing medical care directly to our patients.

The introduction of Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) has been a groundbreaking journey, revolutionizing how we connect with and care for our patients, right from the comfort of their homes.

Initially apprehensive about this significant undertaking, the prospect of RPM seemed daunting. With neighboring healthcare facilities yet to embark on this path, the challenge was even more significant. However, with perseverance and dedication, we discovered that the benefits far outweighed the initial concerns.

The utilization of RPM and our achievement in its implementation became feasible due to an 18-month grant received from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund for our RMP Pilot Program.

This grant facilitated a collaborative alliance involving HIGI a Modivcare company, HNJH, and the Michigan Center for Rural Health. This opportunity served as a pivotal moment, marking our initiation into the realm of remote patient monitoring. The indispensable support provided by the HIGI team significantly contributed to the efficient planning and execution of our RPM program.

Prior to enrolling the first patient, a six-month ramp-up was initiated. This involved envisioning various patient interactions, critical vital readings, escalation protocols, provider engagement, patient education, and closure of the care loop. This meticulous groundwork, despite consuming countless hours, eventually led to what we aimed for - positive patient experiences.

At HNJH, our belief in the power of RPM to enhance patient care is resolute. We urge healthcare facilities to explore these programs and overcome potential barriers. Engage your team, plan meticulously, and witness the transformation in patient care.

Even in rural settings, technology can bridge the gap, expanding access to quality healthcare.

[Click Here to Read the Full Spotlight on Helen Newberry Joy Hospital's Remote Patient Monitoring Program](#)

Save The Date for Two EMS Events in 2024

Registration Opening Soon



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, 2024 at the Delamar Hotel in Traverse City and the Michigan EMS Expo taking place May 2-4, 2024 at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids.

Please follow MCRH **social media channels** and **subscribe to MCRH EMS newsletter** to learn more information and when registration for these two events becomes available.

2024 Maternal & Infant Health Initiative Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND



The **Health Fund** 2024 Maternal & Infant Health Initiative builds on previous efforts, lessons learned from grant partners over the past several years, and feedback from stakeholders across Michigan about the most pressing needs, persistent challenges, and gaps where support could make a real difference.

The goal of the Maternal & Infant Health Initiative is to reduce disparities, increase access to care, and improve outcomes for infants and their mothers.

The Health Fund awards grants through the initiative to support community-driven, locally focused projects that incorporate at least one of three priority categories:

- Address service delivery environment barriers to improve access to equitable health care
- Increase access to protective and clinical interventions
- Address targeted policies, practices, and procedures at the local or practice level that impact or prohibit the best outcomes for mothers and infants.

Applications are due January 26, 2024.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Upcoming MCRH Educational Events



GRAND ROUNDS:

December 13, 2023, 12- 1 PM EST

Pharmacy Grand Rounds: Heart Failure - Optimizing Medical Therapy

Speaker: Curtis Smith, PharmD, BCPS

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided for Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, and Nursing

Project ECHO:

December 6, 2023, 12 -1 PM EST

Infectious Disease ECHO: Antiretroviral Therapy: The Basics

Speaker: Dr. Peter Gulick

[Register Here](#)

CME Provided

EMS:

December 6, 2023, 6 PM EST

HR Competencies for EMS Leaders

Speakers: Scott Moore, Moore EMS Consulting

[Register Here](#)

CE Provided: 1 Operations & IC Education Administration

ADDITIONAL NEWS & RESOURCES:

HOSPITAL PROGRAMS:

QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE UPDATE: [Mandatory Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) Quality Measures](#)

NEW MEDICAID REPORT FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: [Medicaid's Coverage Role in Small Towns and Rural Areas - Michigan Rural Coverage Rate is 43%](#)

EMS:

WORKFORCE SHORTAGE UPDATE: [EMS Workforce Shortage Legislation Introduced - New Four Year Pilot Program To Improve Recruitment and Retention](#)

FUNDING:

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

NEW: [Rural Health Network Development Planning Program – Applications Due January 26](#)

NEW FROM USDA: [USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program – December 31](#)

SOCIAL DRIVERS OF HEALTH:

SURVEY: [Participate in the Rural Health Equity Plan survey by December 1, 2023](#)

RESOURCE: [Updated Federal Profile for Community Health Workers](#)

WORKFORCE:

REPAYMENT PROGRAM: [NHSC Students to Service Loan Repayment Program - Apply by December 7, 2023](#)

VETERANS:

NEW U.P. VETERANS RESOURCE: [Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain opens a Virtual Health Resource Center \(VHRC\)](#)

ONLINE TUTORIAL: [An Introduction to Online Veterans Resources](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

NEW: [Updated Catalog of Value-Based Initiatives for Rural Providers](#)

NEW: [New Birthing Friendly Hospital Designation Available on Care Compare Website](#)

NEW MAP: [New Map Shows Rural Emergency Hospitals](#)

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MCRH'S
2023 ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSORS**



Visit the MCRH Website

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



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East Lansing, MI 48824

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