

MHHA Private Duty Committee Meeting Minutes

04/18/2023 12:30 pm

Virtual Meeting – Zoom Format

Chair – Laura Alexander

1. Introductions. Present: Barry Cargill (MHHA), Cindy Thelen (MHHA), Katie Stone (Our Family Friend), Janet McCollum (Visiting Nurses Port Huron), Laura Alexander (Compassionate Care).
2. Agenda approved with no changes.
3. Minutes from the March Meeting of the Private Duty Committee were approved with no corrections.
4. Legislative:
 - a. State Issues:
 - i. Auto No Fault.
 1. Barry Cargill reported that he met last week with representatives from CPAN and BIAMI to discuss next steps and possible legislation to address the auto no fault crisis.
 2. It is anticipated that the Michigan Supreme Court will likely issue their decision on the Andary case around July, 2023; and that while a decision favorable to injured clients and the agencies providing the care those clients need is anticipated, that decision would only necessarily impact those injured prior to June 2019.
 3. It is anticipated that legislation may be introduced as early as late May, 2023 that would be geared to protect services for all Michigan residents injured in a motor vehicle accident regardless of the date of injury, and that would include a fee schedule for attendant care, RN, LPN, and therapy services not covered by or billable to Medicare.
 4. The Auto No-Fault Task Force continues to meet virtually every other Friday morning, and continues to encourage legislative change. Members present who have concerns with Auto No-Fault changes in Michigan are encouraged to participate in these virtual meetings.
 - ii. Medicaid Budget.
 1. Barry Cargill reported that the proposed state budget recently released by Governor Whitmer calls for increases for Medicaid funded services (including private duty home care services) as well as the continuation of the premium wage for direct care workers.
 2. It is important to note that the Governor's proposed budget is inflated and exceeds monies currently available in the state. The legislature will soon begin the process of ironing out the budget. It is hoped that the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 will be finalized before July 4, 2023.

- iii. Medicaid Eligibility.
 - 1. Mr. Cargill reminded those in attendance that the state of emergency related to the Covid-19 pandemic is scheduled to be lifted in Michigan effective 05/11/2023, which will result in upcoming redeterminations of eligibility for Medicaid beneficiaries across the state.
 - b. Federal Issues.
 - i. Worker Shortage.
 - 1. Barry Cargill encouraged private duty committee members to review the initiatives highlighted in a recent NAHC Report titled *The Home Care Workforce Crisis*. A pdf copy of this report can be found at <https://www.nahc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Workforce-Report-and-Call-to-Action-v2-002.pdf>.
- 5. Direct Care Worker Task Force.
 - a. Barry Cargill shared that he participated in a meeting of the state-wide Direct Care Worker Task Force this morning. The Task Force has now approved credentials for direct care workers. The Task Force has also identified several recommendations, including increases to reimbursement rates for services and increased wages for direct care workers.
 - b. Mr. Cargill encouraged private duty committee members to review the State Policy Recommendation Workgroup Crosswalk document issued by the DCW Advisory Committee. A copy of this report can be found at https://www.mhha.org/wp-content/uploads/DCW-Adv-Com_Policy-Recommendations-Workgroup_DRAFT_3.29.23.pdf.
- 6. Education Committee.
 - a. Cindy Thelen reminded members of the Private Duty Committee that it is not too late to register for the 2023 Annual MHHA Conference scheduled for May 3-5, 2023 at the Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City, MI.
 - b. Ms. Thelen also shared that a limited number of rooms remain available at the Grand Traverse Resort for those wishing to attend the Annual Conference.
- 7. Private Duty Member List-Serve
 - a. Private Duty members of MHHA have an opportunity to participate in a List-Serve made available by MHHA. Members interested in accessing this List-Serve should contact Cindy Thelen at MHHA.
 - b. The following guidelines are intended to outline appropriate use of the List-Serve:
 - i. In compliance with Anti-Trust laws, pricing/bill rates for services cannot be discussed on the List-Serve.
 - ii. Proprietary information should not be shared.
 - iii. To save space on the server, logos and other images (i.e. company logos and social media logos) should be removed from members' signatures when using the List-Serve.

- iv. To save space on the server, avoid attaching documents when using the List-Serve. A web link may be utilized instead.
 - c. Laura Alexander shared that some general guidelines for properly using the List-Serve are available on the MHHA website as well.
- 8. Open Discussion & Other Issues:
 - a. The MHHA Annual Conference is just around the corner. We anticipate this will be a very valuable conference and Private Duty Members are encouraged to participate. We hope to see many of you there.
- 9. Next Committee Meeting
 - a. The next MHHA Private Duty Committee Meeting is scheduled to take place in person at the Annual Conference the first week of May. Members are encouraged to send items/topics they would like to see included on that Agenda to Laura Alexander by 05/01/2023.
- 10. Meeting Adjourned at 1:04 pm.