June, 2022

**Dear All**

1. **NAME CHANGE**

Look at the header! At the Annual Meeting, we unanimously changed our name to better reflect our clinics. The new logo will be out quite soon. We will send out the new logo to all 2022 members for your website/stationery.

1. **Board Management change**

At the June 8 Board meeting, we voted to go to an Executive Director/Board management system. I will be the Interim Executive Director. We are currently looking at grants to hire a part time Executive Director and Administrative Assistant. Jody Buttery, Clinic Manager at Love in Action Health and Dental Clinic in Grand Haven is the Vice President and current acting Board President.

1. **COVID $250,000 monies approved in the 22 – 23 budget.**

 HHS has also sent out the grant application for the COVID $250,000 monies - waiting for this disbursement. As of today (6/24) HHS is waiting for two clinics to send in their agreement contract. Both Juliette and I have contacted those clinics.

1. **Michigan Rehabilitation Services Webinar May 25, Thursday 10 – 11 am**

Tracy Boatmon and Julie McLaughlin did a terrific job! Great explanations of their services and criteria for service.

1. **Annual Meeting and Conference, May 13**

We had at least 26 people at the meeting perhaps more because people came in at later times during the meeting. The recording of the meeting is on You Tube and the clinic data Infographic and detailed 2021 survey are on the website. At the June 8th Board meeting, **we decided to plan an in-person meeting/virtual conference in Lansing next year.**

1. **Legislative Issues we are keeping an eye on**
2. Bipartisan bill (**House Bill 4346**) – **Insulin Co-Pay Cap**. This would limit the out-of-pocket costs to a maximum of $50/month for diabetic Michiganders with commercial health insurance. Passed the Michigan House in 2021. Currently awaiting action by the Michigan Senate House Policy Committee. 21 other states are also looking at legislation to impose their our insulin co-pay caps.
3. **House bill 5966** – **Establishment of a universal and unified health care system to reform the current payment system for healthcare coverage**. Introduced at the end of May. Among other things, the bill wants to “establish a consumer, patient, business, and healthcare professional advisory group to provide input and recommendation to the board”. I believe this is where our voice could be heard. The bill does not mention any recommendation for those without insurance of some kind.
4. **House bill 6112** – Rep. Tisdale’s bill requests to **form a committee to review going from a federally based health insurance exchange to a state based insurance exchange.** 18 states have their own insurance exchange. For Michigan, the major questions are would this increase enrollment, would this lower costs to the consumer, what exactly are the benefits for the state and consumers.
5. Our $400,000 **appropriation** is in the 23 – 24 budget. There has been no opposition to it so I am quite hopeful we have an appropriation for next year.

I am still attending the Michigan House and Senate Health Policy and Appropriations committee meetings.

 If you see any or hear of any legislation introduced in Michigan you feel impacts our patients or out clinics, please let me know. I will certainly investigate the bill’s language and talk to the representatives and senators that introduced the bill.

1. **Expanding Michigan’s Broad Band by funding installation of the fiber cables**

This is not legislative at this point but we are definitely in favor of all the expansion that has been done this year. I have seen updates from the Governor listing the areas that are finally getting fiber cables etc. required for service. This seems to be supported by Democrats and Republicans alike. We will support these efforts until everyone in Michigan has the option of 24 hour internet access they can afford.

1. **FCCOM Membership Renewal and the Clinic Data Survey**

36 clinics so far have renewed and we are of course still looking for more renewals and always, new members. ONLY $50 for the rest of this year! Bargain!

Your tangible support makes it clear that you feel the work we do at state level is useful and helpful.

The 2021 Survey is on the website. As you can see….just powerful numbers but also see that this represents only 26 of our clinics. Can you imagine the numbers with even 20 more clinics sending in information….!

A gentle reminder….**the survey is a requirement for FCCOM membership**.

The **Clinic Data Survey form** is available from Jeff Compagner. It is in a Constant Contact survey form format. IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THAT EMAIL CONTACT JEFF AT JCOMPAGNER@HFHCLINIC.ORG. He will get it to you promptly.

1. **FCCOM Quality Standards Survey**

I will be contacting the clinics that are not NAFC members to arrange a time to complete the QS Survey. This is also a requirement for FCCOM membership.

1. **Two conferences coming up in the Fall**

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Safety Net Conference in person**  **October 13 at the Crown Plaza in Lansing.** The registration is not yet open for this.

**NAFC Symposium Oct. 24/25 both virtual and in person**. Indianapolis, Indiana. Go to their website for registration/hotel information.

Stay safe, stay well. Enjoy this blast of Summer!



Interim Executive Director

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 **Assistance for all clinics within FCOM ….simply call or email.**

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