



Inside The Arc

October 2016

Make Your Voices Heard

Mental Health Town Hall Meeting

Wayne County

Saturday, October 15, 2016

10:00am

UAW Region 1A

9650 Telegraph Road

Taylor, MI 48180

Open at 9:30am

Each county town hall meeting will have a panel of state legislators of that county to hear from advocates, community mental health leaders and concerned citizens regarding their concerns about proposed mental health reforms.

This is your opportunity to express to policy makers your personal concerns that we properly fund more and better mental health services, and to oppose Lansing’s efforts to shift Medicaid funding for mental health services to private, for-profit HMOs.

Persons wishing to share their stories are encouraged to bring written statements, which will be collected and shared with other policy makers following the event. Public comments will be limited to 5 minutes each, to enable as many people as possible to express their concerns. If you choose not to speak or you can’t attend, you may email your comments to fred.a.cummins@gmail.com

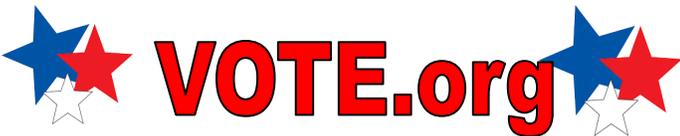
Everyone is Welcome

Sponsors

- Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Oakland County
- Mental Health Association of Michigan
- UAW Region 1A
- UAW Region 1A, Retiree Chapter
- Michigan AFSCME Council 25
- MICHUHCAN
- Parents Alliance of Metro Detroit

Are You Registered to Vote?

You can find out by calling your local court house, or go to:



Everything you need to vote.

- Register to Vote
- Check Your Registration Status
- Get Your Absentee Ballot

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting."

Franklin Delano Roosevelt
32nd President of the United States





26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, MI 48239

Phone: 313-532-7915 Fax: 313-532-7488

www.thearcnw.org

Board Meeting

Oct. 11, 2016 & Nov. 8, 2016

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- Lekotek Play Leader: Lana Richardson
- Lekotek Librarian: Holly Balaka

Achieve with us.



From the Director

The Arc remains committed to supporting best practices that promote real-life quality standards for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are very concerned with the financial incentives that are driving the integration of physical health and behavioral health care. The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority’s new strategic plan appears to somewhat ignore consumers with I/DD. Public comments regarding the plan went unnoticed and the plan failed to address the Center for Medicaid Services’ new rules requiring the transition of Michigan’s Waiver recipients to community based inclusive behavioral health services by the end of 2018.

Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA) is changing its contract to require a full continuum of Managed Care Services through three Managers of Comprehensive Provider Networks (MCPNs). There are currently four MCPNs: Care Link Network , Consumer Link Network, Community Living Services, Integrated Care Alliance F/K/A Synergy. Driving this massive change is the Authority’s new strategic plan approved by the board of directors at the September 21st, 2016 board meeting.

The, to be determined, new three MCPNs will be required to provide a full continuum of services for all mental health populations including: Serious Emotional Disturbance Pediatric, Mentally Ill Adults, Integrated Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Disorder. No Longer will there be MCPNs identified for only I/DD behavioral health services. The management of comprehensive services is likely to result in MCPNs who are “jacks of all trades, masters of none”. Why is our mental health system integrating the behavioral health care needs of people with I/DD with those that have mental illness and substance use disorders while our physical health care systems specialize? People with I/DD have unique needs for life long behavioral supports that is unlike any other health care service.

How does the DWMHA strategic plan improve the lives of people with I/DD? The board’s action to implement these massive changes throughout Wayne County occurred with very little time for the community and stakeholders to understand their implications and offer an opportunity to provide informed comments and suggest alternatives to improve mental health service provisions to our citizens. It was very disturbing to see the board approve a plan that was not supported by providers’ or consumers’ public comments. Therefore, I asked the DWMH Authority board to actively include consumers and providers in the implementation of the new plan.

We cannot allow the potential cost savings through the privatization of behavioral health care override the need for high quality care for our most vulnerable citizens. I will continue to do my best to keep you informed and support best practices for our members.

Chris

Meetings set for parents, caregivers to respond to Michigan plans for mental health system

By Jay Greene

CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS

Check front page for local meeting date & place

A series of public town hall meetings have been scheduled in Southeast Michigan over the next few weeks to discuss a state proposal under development that is intended to improve the mental health system in Michigan by more closely integrating physical and behavioral health services.

Each meeting will feature a panel of state legislators and local officials to hear from parents, advocates, community mental health leaders and other concerned citizens, said Marjorie Mitchell, director of **MICHUCAN** and one of the public forum organizers.

"These forums are designed to have people talk about two issues," Mitchell said. "One, a deep concern about the underfunding of mental health services. It has been defunded over the years and people are unhappy of the services.

Second, "The solution is not to send the money to the HMOs. We need more money for services, and more accountability within the system. (HMO management of mental health services) removes the accountability from the state and the Legislature. This very much a concern for us."

Earlier this year, Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed 2017 budget included boilerplate language to transfer funding management to the state's health plans from the public mental health system. Mental health advocates mobilized and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley helped call a timeout to create a multi-stakeholder committee to develop a report to the state Legislature.

While a draft report on legislative recommendations is due by end of October, tensions have flared between mental health advocates and state officials over how to proceed on how best to fund \$2.4 billion in Medicaid behavioral health dollars and integrate physical and mental health services.

Sources have told *Crain's* that the report is likely to recommend a series of pilot programs to test various models that integrate physical and behavioral health. For example, one region might designate a managed care

organization to manage physical health and mental health services. Another region might use a prepaid inpatient health plan, which is a mental health organization, to coordinate care.

But Mitchell said mental health advocates don't believe having an HMO manage the system will improve services or save the state money. "Families want integration of care. They want people talking with each other. It doesn't have to be an HMO," she said. "We are opposed to the privatization of the public mental health system."

Mitchell said the public forums are important because many mental health advocates and parents of children and adults with mental health or developmental disabilities feel they have been shut out of the process that **Michigan Health and Human Services Department** is using to redesign the system.

"The forums are to get patient and consumer voices heard," Mitchell said. "They have not been heard, except for the advocacy organizations, in the process" that began earlier this summer.

Robert White, a longtime parent advocate of mental health services, said a public forum for parents and caregivers is long overdue.

"We have two adult sons, one 46 and the other 32, both on the autism spectrum," he said. "Both have primary care providers and both receive community mental health services."

White said his older son is in a group home and the younger son lives in his own apartment in a semi-independent living complex.

"I'm a baby boomer. My wife Sue and I are not going to be here forever. Our concerns are focused on what will happen when we are gone," White said. "Some (recipients) don't have the mental capacity to know what is going on. State officials that are designing the system are not listening to what we are saying. They don't understand what is at stake here if what they are doing doesn't work."

Continued on pg. 4

Meetings set

Continued from pg. 3

White said most parents or caregivers haven't had an opportunity to express their viewpoints over the years as the state has cut Medicaid and state general funds for mental health services.

"They are not starting from a basis of understanding about the lives they are making decisions for," White said.

One factor he said state officials need to clearly understand is that many recipients of behavioral health services are aging and require more support services.

"They are more costly than when younger," he said. "We haven't stopped that wave. There are more coming through the system. We don't have a budget issue, we have a funding problem."

White suggested that the state should first calculate how much per recipient it costs to deliver services they need and then fund the system at that level.

"What they do now is cut payments and force (mental health organizations) to manage services at that level," White said. "Let's start with the cost to serve. What does it cost in funding to provide services to populations that need the services. Then you know how big your budget shortfall is. Cutting your way to prosperity is not going to work."

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County/
The Arc of Western Wayne County



After I'm Gone Program

Information sessions are held monthly during the school year at the Western Wayne Skill Center, 8075 Ritz Road, Westland, MI 48185

Thursday evenings 6:30pm - 8:30pm.

October 20, 2016

"Supporting People in Decision Making"

October 27, 2016

"Beyond Group Homes"

PARENT RESOURCE OPEN HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE!

If you Have Questions, We have Answers! Come and Join Us!



Thursday, October 20th

10am-12pm
6pm-8pm

Community Living Services
35425 Michigan Ave West,
Wayne, 48184

COMMUNITY
Living SERVICES
Your Life, Your Way

Learn how Community Living Services can help you:

- Find employment for your loved one
- Understand how benefits and entitlements work
- Navigate the sometimes confusing mental health system
- Meet providers who can answer your questions or concerns

This is open to public and to anyone receiving mental health services, you do not have to be enrolled with CLS

For more information, please call Cynthia Whisler at 734-722-7493 or Cwhisler@comliveserv.com

BE INSPIRED

CLS Welcomes

David Pitonyak- www.dimagine.com

Presenting Beyond Behaviors:
Supporting Confidence, Competence
and Well Being

Join us for a FREE seminar to learn about strategies for supporting people with disabilities and the needs of their caregivers. This is for caregivers, providers and families of people CLS serves.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Friday October 28, 2016

9am-3pm

Wayne Tree Manor
35100 Van Born Rd.

Wayne, Michigan 48184



COMMUNITY
Living SERVICES

RSVP: www.myclstraining.com to enroll
CLS Training Department
734-722-4595 for questions and assistance



JUST FUN CLUB NEWS

What a beautiful sunny day we had for our 'Welcome Back' Hot Dog Roast on Friday, Sept. 16th at the Livonia Rotary Park. We had 188 JFC members attend this year! The pavilion was decorated with colorful balloons and smiley faces everywhere. Thanks so much to Barbara Ostrander, one of our fabulous JFC committee members! We also had a new, special treat for everyone this year. We hired a snow cone company, who provided us with six different flavors to pump onto our ice cups. The colorful juices were such a BIG hit with everyone that we have already booked him to come back next Sept. for our picnic! A special thank you to all of the committee members and volunteers who helped set up, cook, and serve everyone so quickly. We couldn't do it with out ALL of you!

Any registered JFC members and staff who did not attend the Sept. 16 event should pick up their new 2016-2017 ID badge at the check-in table at the Oct. 7 Halloween dance: Thurston High School, 7:00-9:30 p.m. Looking forward to seeing all those great costumes!

Happy Autumn,
Jackie Norris

The Arc Sports News

Happy Fall Everyone!

Congratulations to all the Baseball & Soccer teams for a great season. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves at the Fall Classic weekend Sept 23 & 24. Floor Hockey & Bowling has started. Basketball will be starting in December. Coach Holloway's teams start basketball practice on Tuesday, Dec. 6th: ladies at 6pm & guys at 7pm. Mark McClain's team will be on Wednesday, Dec. 7th.

Coaches: review Health Form List for expiration dates for your players before your season starts.

If form expires during the season please notify the parents and/or staff that the player needs to get the physical before the season starts. Go to SO-MI.org website or thearcnw.org website to get health form. Also, parents, if your son or daughter is going to play a sport call the coach or Arc NW and see when the form expires. No need to wait until the coach tells you.

Important Tournament Dates for 2016-2017 Sport Seasons: (given at Area meeting)

- **Area Floor Hockey tournament – Oct. 15** @ Stevenson Middle School
- **State Poly Hockey Tournament – Nov 12-13** @ Eastern High School, Lansing
- **Area Basketball Tournament – Feb. 11** @ Franklin High School
- **Polar Plunge – Feb. 18** – Belleville Yacht Club
- **District Basketball – March 4** – Northville/Saline
- **Regional Powerlifting – April 22** – Northville High School
- **Spring Games – May 5** – Franklin High School

If anyone has a son or daughter who skates and is interested in getting them involved with Special Olympics figure skating, please call 734-258-3035. A skate instructor from Southgate is looking for more skaters to bring to winter games. Practice is at Southgate Civic Arena.

She also holds classes for Skating Therapy with Adaptive Recreation (a skate program for people with disabilities).

There is a cost for this program.

Memorials

In Memory of Marguerite Freda

Vincent & Marianne Licari

In Memory of Danny Quinn

Betty Ulery

If you hear of the passing of an
Arc member please let us know.
Help us honor the memories of our members
and
support one another through difficult times.
Call The Arc NW office at
313-532-7915

Donations

Stephanie Powell-Uphoff
Lori Serda
Susan Gardynik
Maureen Beaty
Eileen Murphy
David & Darlene Miller
Tonya Melton & Ronald Shemet II

Membership Renewals

Oct. 2016

Charles Brunson
Shirley Ferguson
Fran Ficara
Fitzgerald Home
Rosemary Iljas
Joseph & Susan Kotlinski
Mary Lubeck
Marion & Tony Marks
Katherine Morganti
Renee Niemenski
Doryean Sanford
Janice Slattery
Carol & John Zago



The Arc

Northwest Wayne County

October 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		Board Meeting 6:00pm Arc Office On the 11th				1 Guys & Dolls Bowling 1:30pm
2	3 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center 	4 Poly Hockey 6 - 7pm Skill Center <hr/> Soccer Wolverines 6 - 7pm Wizards Wildcats Hotshots 7 - 8pm	5 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center	6	7 JFC Halloween Dance 7 - 9:30pm Thurston HS	8 Bowling 9:30am Oak Lanes <hr/> Guys & Dolls Bowling 1:30pm
9	10 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center 	11 Poly Hockey 6 - 7pm Skill Center <hr/> Soccer Wolverines 6 - 7pm Wizards Wildcats Hotshots 7 - 8pm	12 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center	13	14	15 Area Floor Hockey Tournament Stevenson MS <hr/> Guys & Dolls Bowling 1:30pm
16	17 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center 	18 Poly Hockey 6 - 7pm Skill Center <hr/> Soccer Wolverines 6 - 7pm Wizards Wildcats Hotshots 7 - 8pm	19 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center	20 After I'm Gone 6:30pm Skill Center	21	22 Bowling 9:30am Oak Lanes <hr/> Guys & Dolls Bowling 1:30pm
23	24 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center On 24th & 31 30 31 Halloween BOO!	25 Poly Hockey 6 - 7pm Skill Center <hr/> Soccer Wolverines 6 - 7pm Wizards Wildcats Hotshots 7 - 8pm	26 Poly Hockey 7 - 8pm Skill Center	27 After I'm Gone 6:30pm Skill Center	28	29 Guys & Dolls Bowling 1:30pm

CHECK IT OUT!
 The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's
 Web Site
thearcnw.org

Friend
 The Arc of Northwest Wayne County
 on
Facebook



26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, MI 48239

**Non-Profit Organization
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Detroit, MI
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Each edition of this newsletter is prepared for mailing by volunteers from Zeta Tau Alpha.



26049 Five Mile Road
Redford, Michigan 48239
313-532-7915

**Inside The Arc is also available online at
thearcnw.org
Call 313-532-7915 to end your printed mailed newsletter.**

Membership Application

Name _____

Email Address _____ **Daytime Phone** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Name _____ **Birth Date** _____

(Name line above for member(s) with intellectual and developmental disability)

Address (if different) _____

Telephone (if different) _____

Welcome!

Membership Dues

- New Member
- Renewing Member
- Associate Member
- \$35 Annual Family or Group Home Membership
- \$25 Individual Membership
- \$25 Associate Membership

DONATIONS \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 _____ Other