

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black blazer over a patterned top and a matching patterned skirt, stands in a room with a large, ornate mirror and two lamps. The mirror is mounted on a wall above a wooden cabinet. The woman is smiling and looking towards the camera. The title 'THE Bulletin' is overlaid on the top of the image in a large, blue, stylized font. The word 'THE' is in a smaller, lighter blue font above 'Bulletin'.

THE Bulletin

July 2014 Volume 92, Number 3

Enjoy the Alliance Issue
GHP Update
AMA Meeting Summary

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Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

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THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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Cover photo: Ruqsana Ahmed, GCMSA President

Our Vision

That the Genesee County Medical Society maintain its position as the premier medical society by advocating on behalf of its physician members and patients.

Our Mission

The mission of the Genesee County Medical Society is leadership, advocacy, education, and service on behalf of its members and their patients.

PLEASE NOTE

The GCMS Nominating Committee seeks input from members for nominations for the GCMS Presidential Citation for Lifetime Community Service. The Committee would like to be made aware of candidates for consideration.

THE BULLETIN

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OUR ALLIANCE IS SPECIAL!

It is truly an honor to have a partner organization which is so effective. I am speaking of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance (GCMSA). The active role played by the Alliance is an example not only to the rest of the state but also envy of whole country.

The pioneering role it is playing under the leadership of its Past President Jay Kommareddi, to bring awareness of "Human Trafficking" to the fore in this county and in the state has achieved awards from MSMSA and from the AMA.

Physicians are normally very busy taking care of their patients. They rarely have time to go out and get involved in the matters that effect our family, community, and our country. It is the Medical Society Alliance that represents the face of GCMS in many of those venues. GCMSA is at its best when it organizes the 5K run to raise money for the Free Clinic, when they collect old books for the




Shafi Ahmed, MD

children or get involved in the social issues like human trafficking.

Besides charity work they also get together for International Luncheons, Family Picnics, the Annual Geranium Luncheon. Best of all, they organize our annual President's Ball. If your spouse is not a part of this dynamic group, ask her/him to attend one of those programs and find out what they are missing.

I personally want to express my gratitude to the GCMSA Board and its current President Ruqsana Ahmed for their commitment to our families, our community and our country. With your involvement and dedication our community and the country as a whole is a better place to live.



If you or someone you know would like to advertise in The Bulletin please contact Sherry Smith at ssmith@gcms.org or Call (810) 733-9923.

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LOOKING AHEAD...



Although it seems like only a few short weeks ago that we were welcoming Dr. Shafi Ahmed as our incoming President, we are swiftly approaching the

GCMS/GCMSA

2014 President's Ball.

The event will be held at the **Genesys Banquet and Conference Center** on **November 15.**

Make plans now to attend, you won't want to miss it!

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ALL MANKIND IS DIVIDED INTO THREE CLASSES -

the immovable, the movable, and those who move.

Saying (Arab)

Each year, the July issue of *The Bulletin* is turned over to the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. This is an opportunity for the Alliance to promote their activities and encourage new memberships. The Alliance is an integral partner in advancing the goals of organized medicine at the local, state, and national levels.

This past year was marked by focused political action, dedicated charitable activities, and fun social and educational programs. Congratulations to Co-presidents Vibha Kaushal and Ruqsana Ahmed, the Alliance Board of



Daniel Ryan, MD

Directors, and the general membership for a great year and a job well done. Welcome again, to Ruqsana Ahmed as she takes over the full responsibilities as incoming President. She will surely carry on the important work of the organization.

Check the Alliance website (GCMSA.org) for upcoming programs and activities. Encourage your spouse to become a member if they are not already. The more members that participate, the more effective is the organization. After all, membership has its privileges.



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MESSAGE FROM THE 2014-2015 PRESIDENT OF GCMS ALLIANCE

On behalf of GCMS Alliance, I would like to welcome you to the 2014 – 2015 year of action. It is a privilege to work for the current year as President. I would like to thank you all for your kind expressions of support. I am very excited about what lies ahead in large part because I know “We can do more together!” I need your support and your cooperation.

Since the inception of our Alliance in 1938, (75 years ago) our organization has made significant contributions for our members, their families and society at large through myriad activities.

We received recognition for Health Promotion and Best Attendance for 2013-14 from the Michigan State Medical Society Alliance. We will be receiving the HAP Award from American Medical Association Alliance for our Human Trafficking initiatives.

We are actively working with the GCMS leadership on the issues that affect the practice of medicine in our community. We are also working hard to make your attendance in the year 2014 – 2015 very enjoyable and educational.

Doctors and their families can make a difference. Step forward and donate your time to this great cause. We are asking you to join us to make this a strong organization. Be a part of it as an informed and active member. Share your ideas and talents with us to develop our focus for future activities. Make our voice highly organized and strong. I believe “Coming together is a beginning. Staying together




*Ruqsana Polly Ahmed
President, GCMS Alliance*

is progress. Working together is success.”

Send your feedback to our website please, at www.gcmsalliance.org. Your opinions are valuable and your advice is appreciated.

Our goal for the coming year is to focus on women’s health, fitness, healthy and nutritious diet, yoga and meditation, community services, the Genesee County Free Clinic, Children’s Immunization and



Children’s Obesity. We will also hold some fun activities. We continue working on Human Trafficking and will do more symposiums and workshops. It is estimated that there are 100,000 children in the sex trade in the United States. Human Trafficking is now the second largest crime syndicate, second only to drug trafficking, and is the fastest growing. We are talking here and now in our community. We have a role to play. Please be aware of it. If you suspect anything please call the Hotline # 888-373-7888

HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY UNIT

Coordinated Care, Close to Home

KH was a 12-year-old girl living in Ontario, Canada with her father. Her parents were divorced and her mother moved to Pinconning, Michigan. KH was diagnosed with cerebellar Medulloblastoma in 2011. She received her brain radiation at Victoria Children’s Hospital and needed to start chemotherapy. It was agreed that her mother in Michigan could provide the most supportive care throughout her treatment so KH moved to Pinconning. She was registered on the Children’s Oncology Group (COG) Protocol and that is how she came to be treated at Hurley Medical Center and counseled periodically by a child psychologist. KH received the same level of quality care much closer to her new home.

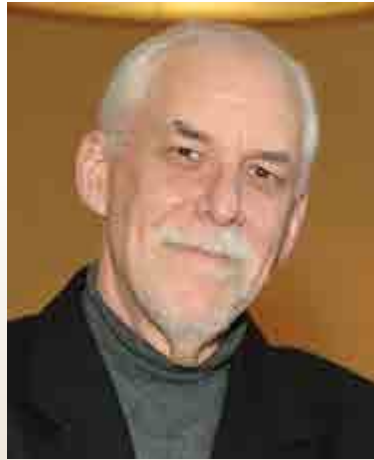
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HURLEY CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

GCMS ALLIANCE ROCKS!

The GCMS Alliance continue to be a beacon of leadership for Alliances across the country. Their activity level is a joy to behold. I don't know how many times I've heard an Alliance member say that if they hadn't gotten involved in the organization by invitation or by direct action on their own parts, it would've been much more difficult to be integrated into the medical community.

One of the great joys of serving in my role, is to see the Alliance members working so hard on so many different projects. They are intensely focused on our community, as well as the welfare of medical



Peter Levine, MPH

families. This year, Ruqsana Ahmed is serving as President. She has a full cadre of activists, committee chairs, and committee members.

Hey, if you're not a member you might want to consider joining. It is \$20 well spent. If your spouse is not a member, this would make a great gift. It is not what you might think. It is not a tea society. It's a lot of very bright, highly motivated people doing very interesting and productive things. Take a look at their activity level in this issue of *The Bulletin*, and consider it.

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Geranium Luncheon Celebrates Leadership

In May, the Annual GCMS Alliance Geranium Luncheon celebrated the transition of leadership from the co-presidency of Vibha Kaushal and Ruqsana Ahmed, to Ruqsana Ahmed serving as President. In addition, a new Slate of Officers was elected including Maria McCann and Raquel Yapchai, Co-Presidents Elect, Tinsi Olds, Secretary and JoyDawn Hardman, Treasurer. In addition, many past presidents were celebrated, and Barbara Pougnet received the Michigan State Medical Society Community Service Award due to her nomination for the award by the Michigan State Medical Society Alliance. Dr. Shafi Ahmed, President of GCMS, attended as a guest of his wife, and Dr. Debra Duncan, GCMS President-Elect thanked the Alliance for all of their great work.



**SAVE
THE DATE**

November 15

**GCMS/GCMSA 2014
President's Ball**

**The event will be held at
the Genesys Banquet and
Conference Center.**

Announcement

GCMS members now entitled to 15% discount on
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MICHIGAN DELEGATION MAKES AN

CME for gun violence prevention, increased STEM education, and encouraging physicians to be political candidates were among the topics of MSMS resolutions that were supported at the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago on June 7-11.

Of the 16 Michigan resolutions submitted to the AMA from the MSMS House of Delegates, 10 were amended or referred to the AMA Board for study, one was not adopted, and five were reaffirmed as existing policies, which resets the “sunset clock” on those policies for another 10 years.

The 22-member Michigan Delegation held a private session with AMA EVP James Madara, MD, and chief lobbyist Richard Deem on the first day of the meeting. Deem thanked MSMS for its effective partnership with the AMA on Capitol Hill. “The Michigan congressional delegation is very important to the AMA,” he said. “We hold up Michigan physicians as a model across the country” for having a strong voice with its policy makers. GCMS was represented by the following delegates, Drs.: Cathy Blight, Venkat Rao, Pino Colone, S. Bobby Mukkamala, Mona Hardas, and Nita Kulkarni.

Tucker Carlson from Fox News, who was the guest speaker at the AMPAC luncheon, also noted that physicians have a unique voice in Washington and should use it with vigor. He said physicians are respected by legislators “because you are thoughtful people who also save lives.”

The uniqueness of physicians also was highlighted by new AMA President Robert Wah, MD, who has been close to the Michigan Delegation for many years. “We have the ability to convene all parties to come to the table and work on solutions to the challenges physicians face today,” he said in his inaugural address.

Alternate delegate John G. Bizon, MD, served on Reference Committee A, Medical Service. Bassam Nasr, MD, also an alternate delegate, served on Reference Committee F, Finance and Board of Trustees. Medical student Nicolas Fletcher received an AMA Foundation Minority Scholars Award for \$10,000 based on academic achievement and commitment to the elimination of health disparities. He said the award was in large part due to the ongoing support of medical students by MSMS and the Michigan Delegation.



IMPACT AT AMA ANNUAL MEETING



Reserve this date! August 2, 2014 from 10am - 2pm

Residents, Students, Young Physicians and your Families!!!

Come spend a day at the **Flint Cultural Center** with the **Genesee County Medical Society**
Get to know one of the jewels of the state of Michigan while meeting your peers from other institutions!

See the  Flint Institute of Arts

See the  SLOAN MUSEUM

See the  THE WHITING
The spotlight's on you!

See the  LONGWAY PLANETARIUM

See the  FIM
Flint Institute of Music

Enjoy a day immersed in the wonders of these beautiful institutions
which are opening their doors wide to welcome you!

There is no cost to you.

Lunch will be provided by:

Members of the Genesee County Medical Society

Open to members and non-members!

Please RSVP to ssmith@gcms.org or phone 810-733-9923

PRACTICE MANAGER'S MEET ON: 'HOW TO GET PAID FOR SEEING YOUR PATIENTS'

The July meeting of GCMS Practice Managers focused on the Genesee Health Plan and Healthy Michigan updates: "How to Get Paid for Seeing Your Patients."

The key presenter was Jim Milanowski, Chief Operating Officer of the Genesee Health Plan. The meeting was riveting and provided very helpful information to those who attended. The August meeting will focus on the PQRS and will feature speakers from the Michigan State Medical Society.



Upcoming Practice Manager Topics

July Topic:

Recessed, no meeting in July.

August Topic:

The focus will be PQRS

Presenter:

MSMS staff, experts and other key entities

Dear GCMS members, GCMSA, and Practice Managers,

There will be an upcoming issue of The Bulletin dedicated to healthy eating.

Please submit your tastiest, most wonderful healthy recipes to us, and let's have some fun teaching one another some delicious ways to eat in a healthy fashion!

Please send your recipe submissions to Sherry Smith at smith@gcms.org

Residents, Students, Young Physicians and your Families!!!

Come spend a day at the

FLINT CULTURAL CENTER

with the

Genesee County Medical Society

Reserve this date!

August 2, 2014

from

10am - 2pm

Get to know one of the jewels of the state of Michigan
while meeting your peers from other institutions!

See the  Flint Institute of Arts

See the  SLOAN MUSEUM

See the  THE WHITING
The spotlight's on you!

See the  LONGWAY PLANETARIUM

See the  FLINT INSTITUTE OF MUSIC
FIM
Flint School of Performing Arts
Flint Symphony Orchestra

Enjoy a day immersed in the wonders of these beautiful institutions
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There is no cost to you.

Lunch will be provided by:

Members of the Genesee County Medical Society

Open to members and non-members!

Please RSVP to ssmith@gcms.org or phone 810-733-9923

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2014 PHOTOS

Daniel Ryan, MD Editor

Editors note – Dear readers, the following photographs were intended for the June issue of The Bulletin, but were dropped by accident. It shows the activity level of GCMS members at this House of Delegates, which went very well. For those interested in attending future Houses of Delegates, please contact a member of the Board of Directors or staff.





HOUSE OF DELEGATES 2014 PHOTOS



JUNE LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING

The June Legislative Liaison Committee meeting featured discussions with state Representatives Pam Faris and Joe Graves, as well as Tim Sneller of Representative Charles Smiley's staff

This particular meeting focused heavily on the problem of rapid diagnostic testing being performed in pharmacies. MSMS has been very assertive in meeting with the Michigan Pharmacy Association, and the State Office of Licensing and Regulation regarding this abrogation of scope of practice by the pharmacies.

The committee also discussed nursing scope of practice expansion bills. It appears that Senate Bill 180 which would expand nurse anesthetist scope is dead. Senate Bill 2, which would expand nurse practitioner scope is still alive and currently in the House Health Policy Committee.

The committee discussed graduate medical education, a subject which the members of the

committee consider the key to the future.

The committee was thrilled by the fact that Senate Bill 648, entitled "Essential Health Provider Program," has passed both chambers of the Legislature. It now awaits the governor's signature. This bill increases loan repayment possibilities for residents who stay in the state of Michigan in underserved areas. State Senator Jim Ananich sponsored this legislation originally, as a member of the state House.

The legislators present reviewed key issues that are coming up in their committees.

The committee looked briefly at Senate Bill 840 which raised some concerns because it targets a specific procedure.

The next meeting of the committee will take place in September. A special Federal Legislative Update with Congressman Kildee will be held during the summer.





GCMSA MEETS WITH LEGISLATORS

In early June, members of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance met with Senator Judy Emmons as well as Genesee County House members. The purpose of the meetings was to support a set of anti-human trafficking bills designed to reduce human trafficking in the state of Michigan.

Attending the meeting on behalf of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance were Jay Kommareddi, Cheryl Thoms, Ruqsana Ahmed and Rosa Wong



Genesee County Medical Society
Board of Directors
April 22, 2014 - Minutes

*Shafi Ahmed, MD Qazi Azher, MD *Athar Baig, MD *Amitabha Banerjee, MD Devinder Bhrany, MD *Cathy Blight, MD *Laura Carravallah, MD *Ed Christy, MD Pino Colone, MD Niketa Dani, MD *Deborah Duncan, MD *Hesham Gayar, MD Walt Griffin *Mona Hardas, MD *John Hebert III, MD *Asif Ishaque, MD Michael Jaggi, DO	*Rima Jibaly, MD *Gary Johnson, MD Farhan Khan, MD *Samasandrapalya Kiran, MD *Nita Kulkarni, MD Paul Lazar, MD Sreen Mannam, MD *S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD Gerald Natzke, Jr., DO *Rama Rao, MD *Venkat Rao, MD Lawrence Reynolds, MD Brenda Rogers-Grays, DO Raymond Rudoni, MD Daniel Ryan, MD Elmahdi Saeed, MD Robert Soderstrom, MD	*Peter Thoms, MD Venu Vadlamudi, MD *Tarik Wasfie, MD *John Waters, MD Amanda Winston, MD Staff: *Peter A. Levine, MPH *Josh Richmond (MSMS) Guests: *David Gordon, MD *Sunita Tummala, MD *in attendance
--	--	--

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM in the Rapport Conference Room by Shafi Ahmed, MD, President.

Review of Minutes:

**Motion: that the minutes of the March 25, 2014 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.
The motion carried.**

Reports:

A. Finance Report

Peter Levine reviewed the budget-to-actual report for the period ending March 31, 2014.

Motion: that the budget-to-actual report for the period ending March 31, 2014 be approved as presented. The motion carried.

B. Membership

Peter Levine reported that the Resident Cultural Center Event will be scheduled in conjunction with Cultural Center staff.

Levine also reported that the member database is being handled entirely by MSMS now. This avoids redundancy of effort. There are some issues associated with making that conversion, but staff does believe that we now have a list that is very close to accurate.

C. Legislative Liaison

Dr. Cathy Blight reported that the Legislative Liaison Committee had met earlier in the month and had a very productive meeting with Senator Dave Robertson and Tim Sneller of Representative Charles Smiley's staff. The committee also had several new members, Discussion revolved around Healthy Michigan Plan implementation, the state budget, opposition to Senate Bill 2 which would expand nurse practitioners' scope

Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors

April 22, 2014 - Minutes

of practice, and Senate Bill 180 which would expand nurse anesthetists' scope of practice. The SGR patch that was put into place and the postponement of ICD-10 were also discussed as well as the need to interview some candidates during the summer in advance of primaries.

D. Community & Environmental Health

Dr. Gary Johnson reported that the Community and Environmental Health Committee is recommending a General Membership meeting on three major types of Medicare fraud: billing, prescriptions and employees. Dr. Johnson reported that the committee is continuing to develop articles for Innovative Health magazine

Dr. Johnson also reported the committee is proposing a special issue of The Bulletin, promoting healthy recipes in which Medical Society and Alliance members can submit recipes. There was extended discussion about whether to email Innovative Health Magazine.

Consensus: the Society will continue to write for the magazine and distribute it in the building, but not via email.

E. Greater Flint Health Coalition Update

Dr. Laura Carravalla reviewed the updated information about the Quality and Innovation Task Force as well as the Advanced Care Planning updates. Dr. John Waters provided an update on cost and resource planning during which the issue of H1 visas was discussed. Hospitals have stopped funding H1 visas.

F. District Directors

Drs. S. Bobby Mukkamala and John Waters reviewed the MSMS Board meeting actions. Of note was the fact that the audit was very positive.

G. The Bulletin Update

Peter Levine noted that the May issue of The Bulletin will revolve around updated health data for the community. The June issue will focus on out-referral issues and the House of Delegates. The July issue will be dedicated to the Alliance. The August issue will be community-wide data. He also reported that the magazine open rate is running approximately 40% with a 25% open rate. This is almost 100% higher than the industry average.

Old Business:

A. Facebook

Peter Levine reported that the Facebook had 3500 views last week. It was suggested that staff pursue advertising and sponsorships for the Facebook page.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the GCMS Board of Directors will take place on May 27, 2014.

Adjournment:

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

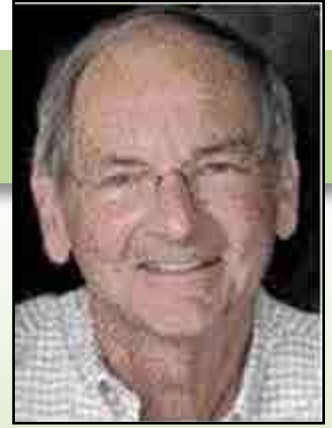
Respectfully submitted,

Peter Levine, MPH
Executive Director

OBITUARIES

Dr. David VerLee, MD

1926 - 2014



Dr. David VerLee, age 76, died at his home in Holland, Michigan, on June 3, 2014. He was born in Mansfield, OH on October 1, 1937. He attended the University of Michigan for BOM undergraduate and medical schools. After an internship at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids, he then completed an ophthalmology residency at the University of Michigan and went on to do two years of medical research at the

National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. He practiced ophthalmology in Flint for 25 years. David is survived by his wife. Dr. VerLee served a six-year term as a board member of the MCAS Board (Medical Center Alumni Society) of the University of Michigan Medical School and was a Rotarian for many years, both in Flint and in Holland, MI.



Dorothy Mulkey, MD

1936 - 2014

Dr. Dorothy Mulkey passed away on Monday, June 2, 2014. Dorothy was born in Jackson, Michigan in 1936. She graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. She later received her MD degree from University of Michigan. Dr. Mulkey was one of the first women to complete a Rheumatology Fellowship at the University of Michigan. She served as the Assistant Dean of the MSU College of Human. Dr. Mulkey retired from her private practice in 2006.



YOUR \$\$\$ AT WORK

- GCMS planned event for young physicians, residents and students at the Flint Cultural Center on August 2, 2014, from 10am-2pm
- GCMS published data and survey regarding care provided to Genesee county residents in and out-of-region institutions
- GCMS members held political fundraisers for several key political candidates
- GCMS Legislative Liaison Committee met with legislators to express grave concerns
- Regarding scope of practice issues including rapid diagnostic testing by pharmacies
- GCMS joined the Michigan Patient Safety Coalition
- GCMS met with Flint Journal editor regarding several key topics

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GCMSA

YEAR OF ACCO

- On October 5th, the GCMSA participated in the annual Peace Day program held at the Univ. of MI-Flint. We presented a \$250 check to the Meta Peace Team to conduct active non-violence training workshops for at-risk youth and adults in Genesee County, encouraging peaceful conflict resolution.
- The GCMSA had an educational meeting in October 2013 to focus on human trafficking. In our October Alliance membership meeting, our focus was to make the community aware of the sex trafficking of children. In November 2013, we sponsored a larger, more comprehensive follow-up event to inform healthcare professionals on ways to identify adult and child victims of both sex and labor trafficking.
- Throughout the year, the Drs. And Families Make A Difference (DAFMAD) committee collected 75 bags worth of donations (including personal hygiene goods, clothing, money, etc.), which were delivered in October 2013 to the YWCA safe house to benefit abused women and their families. Donations still continue to be collected for next year.
- In October 2013, The GCMSA toured and assessed the needs of the New Life Center in Flint, which helps at-risk women with employment and literacy training. On Dec. 11th, we used the \$250 grant given by the

MSMSA to renovate and furnish a day care room for the children of women seeking training, to provide a safe environment for them that encourages learning, creativity, and fun. We toured the room again in April 2014, and the difference in the room from before we started is just amazing.

- In October and November 2013, through the Save in the Schools Program, the GCMSA organized and delivered over 6,000 books to 21 elementary schools in 3 school districts, along with correlated curriculums for teachers. The books were titled “Hands Are Not For Hitting,” “You Don’t Have to be Bullied,” and “I Can Be Healthy.” We have also received feedback from questionnaires distributed with the books, which will be used to make changes as necessary for next year.
- The Reach Out and Read program continues to distribute new and gently used children’s books to pediatricians’ office and hospitals in Genesee County. A total of 200 books were donated in the year, and through a \$250 check provided by the GCMSA in February, new books were purchased and were

REPORT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

distributed in May 2014, for a total of approximately 600 books.

- Though the Health Careers program that the GCMSA sponsors with Hurley Medical Center, students are given the opportunity to explore the health care field through volunteer opportunities in various departments of the hospital. There are monthly orientation sessions in which the volunteers are placed in the positions. The GCMSA also collaborated with Hurley to recruit interested students at Genesee County schools for their Health Career Day open houses in October 2013 and February 2014, where students learned about the many exciting career paths in the health care field. Approximately 600 students participated in the Health Careers volunteer program and the Health Careers Day open houses for the Alliance year.
- For the 2013 year, Genesee County members (GCMS & GCMSA) contributed \$700 to the AMA Foundation.
- In 2013-14 year, a member of our GCMSA, Barb Pougnet, was nominated for and awarded a lifetime community service award through

the MSMS foundation. This award was presented in May 2014 to her at our GCMSA annual Geranium Luncheon.

- At the MSMSA annual meeting in Muskegon, the GCMSA received two awards from MSMSA: one for an outstanding health promotions project and 2nd from the MSMS Alliance president for the Best attendance of a Board Member Award to an Alliance member.
- In 2013-2014, we also received a Health Awareness Promotion (HAP) award from the AMA-A for our Human Trafficki Awareness symposium we held this year. We received an honorable mention award in the SAVE category.
- The Healing Hands 5-K Race event, which helps to fund the Free Clinic, was held on Saturday May 17, 2014. The GCMSA helps to coordinate this race in collaboration with several fraternities and nurse associations. The race held in 2013 year raised \$102,000. This year also promises to be as successful based on our early and late registrations and our wonderful sponsors.
- As of May 2014, we have total of 167 County Alliance members, including three new members who joined this Alliance year.

Genesee Health Plan Takes Lead in Health Care Reform and Healthy Michigan Enrollment

by Jim Milanowski

Since October 2013, the Genesee Health Plan (GHP) has been helping Genesee County residents enroll in the best coverage possible and will provide medical coverage until they are covered by insurance purchased from the Michigan Marketplace (Healthcare.gov) or by Healthy Michigan Plan (Medicaid expansion). GHP will also provide coverage to eligible county residents who do not qualify for the Michigan Marketplace or the Healthy Michigan Plan.

The need for Genesee Health Plan is greater than ever before. **GHP is not going away!** GHP will continue to provide these critical services as the central place to go to help with health care and enrollment:

- Healthy Michigan enrollment
- Health Reform (Healthcare.gov) enrollment- fall 2014
- Medicaid enrollment at the GHP office done by GHP staff and Department of Human Services (DHS) worker. DHS worker is on site at GHP.
- GHP Plan B coverage
- Prescription assistance
- Health navigation
- Development and implementation of products to enhance Health Reform products with a focus on dental, vision, mental health and prescription drug coverage.

Members can get help applying at GHP for the Healthy Michigan Plan. They can call **1-844-232-7740** to schedule an appointment. If you or the people you assist have questions, please call our office.

What has happened with GHP members?

Timeline

April 1, 2014

All GHP Plan A enrollees were automatically enrolled in Healthy Michigan effective 4/1/2014 and are no longer on GHP.

April 30, 2014 - Ongoing

All **Plan B** members had a GHP end date of April 30, 2014. To continue to be on GHP Plan B, people will have to apply for Healthy Michigan. If they are accepted into Healthy Michigan, they will no longer be a GHP member.

All **Plan B** members who apply for Healthy Michigan and get denied or put on a pending status can re-apply for GHP and if eligible will be covered by GHP until the next open enrollment into the Michigan Marketplace. It is estimated that GHP will have a Plan B enrollment of 10,000 to 12,000 in October 2014.

November 2014- December 2014

The next open enrollment period into the Michigan Marketplace has a tentative start date of Nov. 15, 2014. During this time, any member who qualifies for the Michigan Marketplace will have to apply.

Health Reform brought about significant change to the health care landscape in our community. Initial enrollment into the Michigan Marketplace (healthcare.gov) started in October 2013 and ended in March 2014. Enrollment did not go smoothly, as the healthcare.gov site had technical difficulties throughout the open enrollment period. GHP staff educated and assisted over 10,000 people in the community about Health Reform during this time period.

Key Takeaways about Health Reform

This is not universal health care: some people will not be eligible or will be exempt from purchasing coverage. They will be uninsured. It is estimated that 21,500 people in Genesee County will still be uninsured after Michigan Marketplace and Healthy Michigan enrollment.

272,539 signed up in Michigan out of the 468,000 eligible

87% of those enrolled received a tax credit or subsidy on their premium

Next open enrollment period is November 2014 to February 2015.

The Medicaid expansion in Michigan did not coincide with Health Reform enrollment. Enrollment into Healthy Michigan began April 1, 2014. To be eligible for Healthy Michigan, one must be:

- A Michigan resident
- Between the ages of 19 and 64
- Not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare
- Not pregnant when applying
- Making less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Level, which is about \$15,000 for a single person and about \$34,000 for a family of four

Healthy Michigan is full insurance coverage. It covers outpatient services like doctor visits, prescriptions, labs, and x-rays. The good news is that it covers these other services:

- Emergency room
 - Hospitalization
 - Family Planning
 - Dental
 - Vision
 - Mental health and substance abuse treatment
 - Non-emergency transportation services (your patient can get a ride to and from your office appointment)
- Check with the patient's health care plan for details.

Enrollment into Healthy Michigan is ongoing and does not have an end date. As of May 27, 2014, **18,258** are enrolled in Healthy Michigan in Genesee County. There are several ways a person can apply for Healthy Michigan:

- Online at www.healthymichiganplan.org
- Call 1-855-789-45610 and do it over the phone
- In person at a DHS office
- In person at the GHP office
- Call GHP at 1-844-232-7740 to schedule an enrollment appointment

Office Issues Concerning Healthy Michigan

With Healthy Michigan enrollees coming to the provider office, please be aware of the following:

Enrollment Issues

Person might call or present to your office saying they are enrolled but your office cannot verify coverage. Remember, a person is first enrolled into traditional Medicaid (fee for service) before they are assigned or choose a health plan. They might be on fee for service for 30-90 days before being on a health plan. The health plan gets an eligibility/enrollment file once a month from the state. Your office could call the health plan before the current enrollment file has been received and processed.

Health Risk Appraisal

The patient has 60 days from the time of picking a plan to schedule an appointment with the primary care doctor. They have 150 days to complete the first appointment. At the first appointment a Health Risk Appraisal (HRA) must be finalized. The first three sections of the HRA will be completed by the health plan before it is forwarded to the doctor's office to finalize the last section.

Key: Do not complete the HRA or the HRA visit while the patient is on fee for service. You will not be reimbursed by the health plan and will have to do it all over again. Please contact the patient's assigned health plan for details on the HRA and how to bill to get reimbursed.

GCMSA Supports the Genesee



In May, the Genesee County Medical Society organized and executed the Hands Run/Walk with several donations, on behalf of Genesee County Free Medical Clinic. Once again, the event raised over \$100,000 for the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic and more racers than



Genesee County Free Medical Clinic

Genesee County
Community Alliance orga-
nized the Healing
Mile in conjunction
with other organiza-
tions as part of the
Genesee County
Free Medical Clinic.
This event raised
\$10,000 for the Free
Medical Clinic, and also had
the largest turnout ever before.



EXAUGURAL SPEECH

VIBHA KAUSHAL

As our Alliance year winds down and another is set to begin, I find myself having many fond memories of the year we have just finished. The year has taught me a lot and when I reflect on what we accomplished after a very uncertain beginning, I am so proud that our Alliance has survived for the better. We have had many successes and I would like to briefly share with you how we have fulfilled our goals and agenda from exactly a year ago. These successes would not have been possible without the work of our board and committee members and the participation and support of all of our Alliance members- thank you. I would also like to thank Pete Levine and Sherri Smith for all their support and help.

I would now like to present a brief Annual report of our accomplishments:

One of our goals for the year was to increase membership participation by putting on programs with more relevance to our members. We have, as of May 2014, 167 county members, with 3 new members added this year. This is thanks to the hard work of Lakshmi Tummala and Cheryl Thoms

We had many social programs that catered to a variety of interests, which allowed us to connect with different members. These programs included the GCMS/GCMSA talent show organized by Cheryl Thoms and Sue Lauber; our ever popular international luncheon organized by Lakshmi Tummala at the home of Dr. Mona Hardas; the GCMS/GCMSA ball organized by the Alliance committee of Joy Dawn Hardman, Anjali Misra, Maria McCann, Raquel Yapchai, Marianne Almeida, Ruqsana Ahmed and Jeanette Rivera; the two coffees we had in the homes of our members Maria McCann and Samira Rao; the food and wine tasting organized by Mona Sahouri; the yoga class organized by Sue Kirby and of course this Geranium Luncheon organized by Amita Desai. Special thanks go to these alliance members for tirelessly coordinating and helping with the details of these



Vibha Kaushal

programs to make them successful. If I have forgotten any name, please forgive me.

In addition to these social programs serving our membership, we successfully acted on our mission statement to serve our community with a variety of educational and charitable endeavors that we are extremely proud of. I would like to briefly go over these initiatives.

In working toward our charitable goals, Alliance members participated in many service projects to benefit Genesee County residents.

The doctors and families make a difference day (DAFMADD) committee delivered monetary, personal hygiene, and clothing donations to the YWCA safe house for the use of abused women and their families. Thank you, Nelda Hebert and Rula Ali-Bakr.

With the help of an MSMSA grant, Alliance members renovated and furnished a day care room at the New Life Center in Flint for the children of women seeking job training. Thank you Raquel Yapchai, Maria McCann, Jeanette Rivera, Rula Ali_Bakr, Lakshmi Tummala.

Through Save in the Schools, Alliance members delivered over 6000 books to 21 elementary schools in 3 school districts. Thank you Randa Gayar, Lakshmi Tummala, Maria McCann, Diane Morris, and Ruqsana Ahmed and many other volunteers who helped distribute books.

Through The Reach Out and Read program, we distributed approximately 600 books to pediatricians' offices and hospitals in Genesee County. Thank you Jeanette Rivera.

We sponsored and recruited students for Hurley Medical Center's Health Careers Program and Health Career Day open houses. Thank you Mary Lou Mathias.

Also in an effort to promote involvement in healthcare industry careers, Genesee County members contributed \$700 to the AMA foundation to fund research and medical education. Thank you to Kee Kang.

In addition to projects executed entirely by our members, we participated in the following community-wide charitable events. At the annual Peace Day Program, we presented a donation of \$250 for the Meta Peace Team to use to conduct non-violence training workshops for at-risk youth and adults. Thank you Anjali Misra and Sabita Tummala and other Alliance members who attended the Peace Day program, Dr. Nita Kulkarni, Jeanette Rivera, Lakshmi Tummala and Usha Thawani

We helped coordinate the Healing Hands 5K race which was held on May 17, 2014. This race is our major fundraiser and raised money that will be donated to the Genesee county free medical clinic to help fund their activities. The race held in 2013 raised \$102,00 and with our hard work, we hope to match and even exceed that amount this year. Thank you to Barb Pougnet, Joy Dawn Hardman, Jeanette Rivera, Ruqsana Ahmed, Rima Kudish and all the wonderful volunteers who came to help in the morning of the race.

A member of our Alliance, Barb Pougnet, was nominated for and won a lifetime community service award for her work in the Healing Hands 5K race through the MSMS foundation.

Our major education initiative this year was focused on human trafficking. We held a meeting in October that aimed to increase community awareness of child sex trafficking in our state, and we sponsored a follow-up event held by GCMS in November to educate healthcare professionals on protocols for identifying adult and child victims of both sex and labor trafficking. The efforts of the members who organized these events led us to receive honorable mention for a Health Awareness Promotion award from the AMA-A, in the SAVE category. Thank you to Jay Kommareddi, Cheryl Thom and Diane Morris and wonderful volunteers.

We also participated in an educational MSMSA sponsored “Doctor of the day” in Lansing, where we had the opportunity to meet and talk with Capitol lawmakers about the important

issues in the medical profession and the need for physician families to be involved in the legislative process. Thanks to Beth Schumacher, our legislative chairperson and Cheryl Thoms for attending this important meeting.

We have also continued to connect to Alliance families through three issues of our newsletter, the Alliance Focus, our website, GCMS Alliance.org, and, as of just this year, our GCMS Alliance Facebook page. In addition, we have made efforts to provide emotional support to families experiencing difficulties through cards and prayers from our extensive alliance network. Special thanks go to Barb Adams, Rula Ali Bakr and Dianne Thompson

Next year, the new president of GCMSA will be Mrs. Ruqsana Ahmed, who will continue to build on projects accomplished this year so that our Alliance remains a vital organization in this community. Please support her and her board with your participation.

Last but not least I would like to thank my family for their support this past year.



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READY TO MOVE IN 4,500 SQ. FT.

Custom designed physician office. Available for rent or purchase in Stone Bridge office complex off Linden Rd. across from Genesee County Medical Society. New roof and heating/cooling. Contact 810-610-0965

PHYSICIANS NEEDED

at the Emergency Medical Center of Flint Various shifts available for part-time, as well. Must be willing to do minor stitches, infants & children, splinting, and minor eye & ear procedures. This is a classic urgent care much like family practice. Hours of operation 9:30am – 9pm, 7 days a week, closed on major holidays Located at 2284 S. Ballenger Hwy., Suite 2, Flint, 48503. Contact Pete Levine at 810-733-9925.

Check Out Our Website

www.gcms.org

GCMS MEETINGS

— July 2014 —

2014 Past President's Ball Committee,
7/2 - 12pm, Sagano's Japanese Bistro

Community & Environmental Health Committee, 7/23 - 12:30, GCMS Office

The following list of monthly meetings are recessed in July:

Legislative Liaison Committee
Bulletin Committee
Membership Committee
Finance Committee
Board of Directors
Practice Managers

Event for Residents, Students and Young Physicians,

8/2 - 10am, Flint Cultural Center
Please see page 13 for additional information regarding this exciting affair!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOCTOR

JULY

Macksood Aftab, DO	1	Niketa Dani, MD	9	Orestes Iung, MD	22
Louise Desgranges, MD	1	Bhadrabala Ganatra, MD	9	Farhan Khan, MD	22
Katikuti Dutt, MD	1	Fikria Hassan, MD	9	Allen Turcke, MD	24
John Hebert, MD	1	Ahmad Al-Taweel, MD	10	Jae Kim, MD	25
Dindigalla Ramana, MD	1	Kathleen Justice-Kirtek, MD	10	E. Grant Murphy, MD	25
Ivana Vettraino, MD	1	Scott Karlene, MD	10	Dong Whan Oh, MD	25
Tarik Wasfie, MD	1	Wael Salman, MD	12	Jon Santiago, MD	25
Barina Zado, MD	1	Curtis Irvine, MD	14	James Knaggs, MD	26
John Morrison, DO	2	AppaRao Mukkamala, MD	14	Srilatha Koduru, MD	26
John Waters, MD	3	Frederick VanDuyne, MD	15	Linsey Gold, DO	27
Linda Norrell, MD	4	Koteswara Vemuri, MD	15	Edward Holden, MD	27
Abdulfatah Osman, MD	6	Lawrence Irish, MD	17	Sosa Kocheril, MD	27
Glen Sullenger, MD	6	Peter Rydesky, MD	17	David Strahle, MD	27
Kamal Hasan, MD	7	Jordan Espiritu, MD	18	Eyassu Habte-Gabr, MD	28
Kang Kwon, MD, MD	7	Ashvin Patel, MD	18	Seann Willson, MD	28
Purushottam Naik, MD	7	Shahzad Sadiq, MD	18	Robert Cross, MD	29
Michael Roxas, MD	7	Melinda Wheatley, MD	19	Jyostna Pulla, MD	31
Amro Sheta, MD	7	Jaime Ballesteros, MD	21		
James Gibbons, MD	8	James Vyskocil, MD	21		

2014-2015 GCMSA EVENTS

2014-2015	PROGRAMS	VENUE
August 23, 2014 12:00 pm	GCMS/GCMSA Family Picnic Chairperson: Ruqsana Ahmed	Farm House 171 Barron Road Ortonville, MI 48462
September 16, 2014 11:00 am	International Luncheon Chairperson: Lakshmi Tummala	TBD
Oct 21, 2014 11:00 am	Educational Seminar on Human Trafficking of Children in MI Chairpersons: Cheryl Thoms & Jay Kommareddi	TBD
Nov 18, 2014 11:00am 12:00: lunch	GCMSA Fashion Show Chairperson: Carole Hassan	TBD
Saturday, November 15, 2014	President's Ball Chairpersons: Anjali Misra, JoyDawn Hardman	Genesys Banquet & Conference Ctr. 805 Health Park Boulevard Grand Blanc, MI 48439
January 20, 2015 11:00 am	Social Coffe Investment Meeting Chairperson: Rosa Wang	TBD
February 17, 2015 11:00 am	Social Coffe Women's Health Chairperson: Velynda Makhene Zumba Dance Chairperson: Jeanette Rivera	TBD
March 17, 2015 11:00 am	Social coffe Chairperson: Oya Agabigum International Poetry Recitation Book Discussion	TBD
April 21, 2015 11:00 am	Dance Class Chairperson: Dr. & Mrs. Dismond Yoga and Meditation Chairperson: Sue Kirby	TBD
May 19, 2015 Tuesday 11:00am	Geranium Luncheon Chairperson: Amita Desai	Warwick Country Club 9057 S. Saginaw Street Grand Blanc, MI 48439

GCMSA FRIENDSHIP GROUP



In 2006, the GCMS Alliance felt that a group was needed for our senior ladies (actually, there is no age limit) was needed. The purpose of the group is to help the Alliance stay in touch with some of our members who don't get to our meetings often any more. Marilyn Lindman started calling the ladies who were identified and our Friendship Group was started. With the help of Carole Hassan we have now a steady group that come together at different restaurants every other month. Between 10 and 20 attend each luncheon, and we are open to all who would like to participate. We have no particular agenda and all we do is meet for lunch and keep up with everyone's life. It is a great group of Alliance members.

Cheryl Thoms,
GCMSA Past President

If you or someone you know would like to advertise in The Bulletin please contact Sherry Smith at ssmith@gcms.org or Call (810) 733-9923.

2014-2015 GCMSA OFFICERS



(as pictured from left to right in photo)

Ruqsana Polly Ahmed,
President

Maria McCann & Racquel Yapchai,
Co-Presidents Elect

Tinsi Olds,
Secretary,

Joy Dawn Hardman,
Treasurer



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL
FOR 2014-2015
GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
ALLIANCE**

Alliance Member's Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone if desired _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Physicians Full Name: _____

Annual Dues: MSMS Alliance \$32.00

 GCMS Alliance \$30.00

Total Remittance \$62.00 \$ _____

IMPORTANT:
Check payable to: GCMSA

READ CAREFULLY:

If you are a retired widow and you are paying State and County it is \$55.

AMA Alliance will bill and collect their own dues. Do not send them to us.

**Mail to: Cheryl Thoms
GCMS Alliance Membership
1213 Carter Dr.
Flint, MI 48532
Phone # 732-7719 if you have any questions**

