

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Approved by the Regents
April 15, 2010

Subject: University of Michigan Health System (UMHS)
Washtenaw Community Health Organization (WCHO)
Re-appointments to the WCHO Board of Directors

Action Requested: Approval

Background:

In 2000, the University of Michigan Board of Regents and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners jointly created the Washtenaw Community Health Organization (WCHO) under the Urban Cooperation Act as a means to promote and achieve better coordination/integration of specialty mental health services/supports with general medical care for individuals with serious mental illness, co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse, primary addiction disorders and/or developmental disabilities. Each entity is responsible for appointing six members to the WCHO Board of Directors.

The WCHO, in association with its clinical partner, Community Support and Treatment (CSTS), retained its legacy mission, commitment and legal responsibility for persons within Washtenaw County with serious mental illness, co-occurring conditions, developmental disabilities and/or substance use disorders. The WCHO's organizational connection with the University of Michigan Health System (UMHS), provides WCHO/CSTS opportunities to establish primary care linkages for consumers, to coordinate physical/mental health care provision, to engage in collaborative medical management arrangements, and to develop electronic health information exchange capabilities.

The WCHO strives to contribute to all of the Health System's goals and objectives and to be a resource for education and research to all schools within the University. The WCHO is a clinical placement site for third year psychiatric residents. The third year medical student rotation continues to receive the highest rating of all of the psychiatry rotations. Family practice residents rotate through an integrated healthcare site and child psychiatry fellows are placed in integrated healthcare sites and at the public community mental health center. Students from the Schools of Social Work and Nursing also receive field training at the mental health center. Additionally, the WCHO partners extensively with researchers from across the University of Michigan campus, serving as the clinical site for a number of clinical practice and outcome.

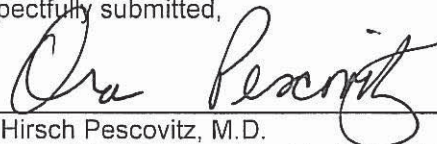
Proposed re-appointments to WCHO for the Term: April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2013:

Mr. Gene Brown has been a member of the WCHO Board since 2007; he is currently the Chairperson of the Programs/Provider Network Committee. He brings over twenty years experience in developing and managing substance abuse treatment and prevention programs for a two-county region in southeast Michigan to his Board position. His areas of expertise include substance abuse program development and management, behavioral health program needs assessment, human services data collection and analysis, and systems change.

Mr. Michael Dabbs was appointed to the WCHO in April, 2000, and served as the Board Chairperson from 2001 – 2004; he is currently the Chairperson of the Affiliation Committee. During his tenure with the Board, he has served as a mentor for other Board members and a resource on issues of public policy and public education. He is the currently the President of the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, Inc., a position he has held since 1993.

I recommend that the Regents approve the reappointments of the above named individuals to the Board of Directors of the Washtenaw Community Health Organization for the term April 1, 2010 - March 31, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs

April 2010