

COMMUNICATOR

Special Olympics Basketball



January and February was the Special Olympics basketball season. This year both Houghton and Baraga Counties had basketball teams. Houghton County had the Thunderbolts A and B teams and Baraga County's team was the Vikings. The Houghton teams were coached and organized by a staff member from Oak House in Hancock. The Baraga County team was coordinated by a case manager from the CCMH L'Anse office. Two community members volunteered their time as coaches.

The Vikings practiced at least once a week at the Ojibwa Community College in Baraga. Each player brought exceptional talents to the team. The three teams traveled to tournaments in Ishpeming and Escanaba. At the Ishpeming tournament which took place on February 5th, the Vikings won both games. The Escanaba tournament was an action packed two day event on February 25th and 26th. Athletes enjoyed a social dance, two pizza parties, and an overnight stay at a hotel in Escanaba. The teams played at least two games in their division and all three teams finished 2nd place in their division.

In addition to tournaments, the Houghton and Baraga teams played each other on February 19th at Finlandia University. During the first game, the Thunderbolts A team played the Vikings and won. The Vikings came around in the second game beating the Thunderbolts B team by just three points! Most importantly, all the athletes had a great time and were awarded 2nd place ribbons and souvenir team pictures in Escanaba.

The basketball events would not have been possible without the generosity of our many sponsors. The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Tribal Council provided a large donation, the Baraga Telephone Company donated funds, and of course CCMH raised \$750 with the soup lunch and bake sale. Additionally souvenir t-shirts were donated by Larry's Market, a pizza dinner was donated by community members, and team water bottles were donated by a CCMH staff member. The Vikings are so grateful to our wonderful sponsors and look forward to Special Olympics events in the future!

CCMH Awarded DROPT Grant

Copper Country Mental Health Services Institute recently received one of three grants from the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council to work with Housing Continuums of Care (CoC). We will be working closely with the Baraga County RICC Year One, and expand into Ontonagon County Years Two and Three. The project is called **Developing Residential Options through Participation and Training (DROPT)**.



DROPT will work to educate the local Continuums of Care and other community leadership in the housing arena on the need to include people with disabilities in the decision-making process. We will be partnering with state and national housing policy advocates for people with disabilities and helping local people with disabilities to understand state and federal housing policy and funding sources, and advocate at the state and federal levels for meeting the housing needs of people with disabilities.

Training for people with disabilities and their families will include learning the functions of CoC and the funds they oversee; identifying systemic barriers that prevent people with disabilities from getting housing; and learning effective legislative advocacy. We will also be attending conferences, seminars and institutes that will help them develop leadership skills in the housing area.

DROPT will work with the Michigan Disability Housing Workgroup and other housing advocacy groups to create, prioritize and implement housing advocacy strategies. We will be identifying and promoting aspects of vibrant, inclusive communities that the project can implement. We will also spend time meeting with legislators and other policymakers in the home district and in Lansing to educate them about the housing needs of people with disabilities.

Finally, DROPT will provide presentations to a variety of community groups, elected officials and other citizens to promote affordable and accessible housing and the importance of building inclusive communities. We look forward to this exciting opportunity for Prevention and local RICCs to work together.

CCMHS Compliance CONNECTION

Compliance Chat

CCMHS CODE OF ETHICS

The Copper Country Mental Health Services Code of Ethics is a cornerstone document outlining the general and specific principles intended to guide the decision making of direct care staff, clinicians, administrators and our board of directors. General principles such as competence, concern for the welfare of others, respect, social responsibility, integrity and professional conduct are principles we value.

Our code of ethics includes these general principles as well as specific principles including our business practices, human resources, marketing efforts, service delivery and professional responsibilities.

These principles, outlined in the Code of Ethics, are intended to cover most situations encountered by CCMHS staff. The Code of Ethics is based on the following core values of: accountability to the public; avoiding conflict of interest; choice; effectiveness; efficiency; empathy; empowerment; inclusion; prudent use of resources; security; respect for the life, value and dignity of individuals; and being fair and impartial.

The Code of Ethics is reviewed at all mandatory and annual ethics and compliance trainings and is available upon request from the Compliance Officer.

Do you have a suggestion for the annual ethics & compliance training?

Perhaps your work area is struggling with an issue or concern that you would like addressed at this year's training. Send your ideas to the CCMH Compliance Officer at 482-9400 ext #227.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF ETHICS?

Points to Consider in Ethical Decision Making

Evaluate your facts for accuracy.

Think about all possible courses of action.

Handle your decision as if it was going to be in the news.

Identify the potential consequences of your decision.

Consider if your decision is setting a precedent.

Stop if you are in doubt—ask for direction.

Food for Thought:

- *First impressions aren't always correct.*
- *A new piece of information can change your whole perspective.*
- *One little misunderstanding can take us down the wrong path.*
- *Listening and trying to understand others helps us to see the "whole picture".*

Watch for CCMHS Compliance Connections coming again with more on ethics and compliance.



once again to Clubhouse members and staff for folding the Communicator for us each month!