



7th District Branch Report **September 2021**

Since the last meeting of the MSSNY Council, the Seventh District Branch has been involved in the following issues and activities:

- MCMS held its **Annual Meeting & Officers Installation** on Tuesday June 8, 2021, virtually from 7:00pm-8:00pm. We were excited to welcome Dr. Sellers, new MSSNY President and Mr. Troy Oeschner, new EVP, MSSNY who joined us!
- MCMS has scheduled its annual **2021 Ask the Carrier** event in partnership with the Onondaga County Medical Society: a first-ever collaborative effort. This event drew over 160 attendees and was attended by practice managers, administrators, and billing staff to hear the latest updates and policy changes from multiple health plans.
- MCMS made the difficult decision to postpone its **200th Anniversary Celebration** due to the spread of the Delta variant and the significant increase in COVID-19 cases in Monroe County. While we were disappointed in having to postpone this milestone event to the Spring of 2022, doing so ensures the safety of our members, community partners and staff.
- MCMS' **Quality Collaborative** has received approval from Excellus BCBS of its **Phase 3 Quality improvement project on Adolescent Mental/Behavioral Health** to address the following goals:
1) **Increase total # of PHQ-9 screenings** done at physicals for 12-18-year-olds; 2) **Increase # signed patient, parental and/or legal guardian two-way consent form** for communication with mental health professionals; 3) **Increase appropriate follow up** for patients (via appointment or phone call) with moderate to severe depression (PHQ9 of 10 or above); 4) **Decrease time/gap from the time family/pediatric physician makes referral to BH/MH provider** to the date the patient is seen by the specialist; 5) **Increase the communication** from the BH/MH provider back to the PCP/pediatrician on patients' progress.
- MCMS is working with its community partners to develop needed programming. **New initiatives with the University of Rochester Medical Center** include:
 - **Structural Racism in Healthcare** (launching October 2021)
 - **Physician Wellness Symposium on Well-Being and Burnout Prevention** scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 2022, from 8:30am-1:00pm. This virtual symposium will bring together academics, educators, and practitioners from a variety of fields for a collaborative, multidisciplinary exploration of the ways to support the well-being of clinicians, faculty, and learners, and to share best practices. The plenary speaker is **Lotte N. Dyrbye, MD, MHPE, FACP**, Director, Academy of Educational Excellence, Assistant Dean, Faculty Development, Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education, Co-Director, Program on Physician Well-Being.
 - **Pipes and Pathways Customer Service Training** for high potential employees.
- MCMS continues to **offer a variety of educational "Survival Series" and Grand Rounds** to its physician membership and constituents. Recent topics have included: Mandatory Vaccinations & Masking in the Workplace; OSHA ETS; ICD-10 CM Coding; Helping Patients Live their Fullest Life During and After Cancer; Keeping Up with HIPAA: What You Need to Know; 2022 Medicare & Compliance Changes, and many more!