

### Impact of Auto No-Fault Reform: Michigan's Crisis in Care

Tom Judd Executive Director October 31, 2022

## Today's Objectives:

- Understand the basics of the medical "fee schedule" in Michigan's auto insurance no-fault law.
- Understand the impact the "fee schedule" has on essential rehabilitation and care organizations' ability to provide services to catastrophically injured patients.
- Understand the advocacy that has occurred to correct this law and the potential impact on community disability organization.



#### Public Acts 21 and 22 of 2019 – Auto No-Fault "Reform" Law

- Most globally impactful change: No longer is everyone guaranteed lifetime coverage for "reasonably necessary products, services, and accommodations"
  - Personal Injury Protection (PIP) Choice
    - Complete "opt out"
    - > \$50,000, \$250,000, \$500,000 limits
    - Continued "lifetime benefits" option (WARNING not what you think!)
  - Change (i.e., reduction) in covered citizens
    - ▶ Limited coverage through the "Assigned Claims"
- Other changes:
  - Increased liability (you can now be sued!),
  - utilization review,
  - anti-fraud unit,
  - hourly limit on family provided care



# Access to Care: The Most Egregious Impact of Reform Law

Tiered Medical "Fee Schedule":

	Services with Payable Medicare Codes	Services without Payable Medicare Codes
	Reimbursement Capped at Percentage of <i>Medicare Reimbursement</i>	Reimbursement Capped at Percentage of <i>Provider's</i> 2019 Charges
July 2, 2021 – July 1, 2022	• 200%	• 55%
July 2, 2022- July 1, 2023	• 195%	• 54%
July 2, 2023-	• 190%	• 52.5%

### Services Impacted:

- Outpatient/clinical services Fee cap system creates unreasonable uncertainty (inconsistent payments)
- Long-term care services PIP Choice levels less than lifetime
- Services impacted by 55% rule:
  - Post-acute residential programs
    - Short-term/transitional and long-term care
  - Vocational services/Return to work programs
  - Day treatment programs
  - Continuous in-home healthcare
    - Private duty care
    - Nursing



#### **Crisis in Care**

- MPHI Studies:
  - ▶ 209 Organizations:
    - ► 6,857 discharges
    - ▶ 4,082 jobs lost
    - 24 closures in the next 12 months
  - 498 Individuals:
    - > 78% of respondents reported a loss of services
    - Nearly 10% of respondents have been hospitalized 1 to 8 times, directly related to loss of services brought on by no fault reform
    - Over 1/3 of respondents reported an impact in their rehabilitation progress, increased medical needs, and/or increased behavioral needs
    - 6 deaths were reported
    - ▶ 20% of respondents have applied for Medicaid assistance
    - ▶ 43% fewer patients are able to maintain full-time employment, as they have no one to get them up, groomed and transported to work, or remain there to toilet them



### **Advocacy Efforts:**

- Coalition of Partners
  - MBIPC
  - CPAN
  - ► BIAMI
  - We Can't Wait
  - Interfaith Coalition
- Broad Supporters:
  - The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation
  - League of Michigan Bicyclists
  - Michigan Home Care and Hospice Association
  - The Michigan Assisted Living Association
  - Disability Rights Michigan
  - Disability Network/Michigan
  - Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council
  - Michigan League for Public Policy
  - The Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program



# **Advocacy Efforts:**

- Media Coverage
  - Over 1,100 news stores state-wide (in all markets)
    - Craine's Detroit, Michigan Radio, Detroit News, Traverse City Record-Eagle, Fox 17 (Grand Rapids)
  - ▶ Editorials from Traverse City Record-Eagle and Crain's Detroit Business
- Legislative Solutions Introduced
  - ► HB 4486/SB 319, HB 5125, HB 4992, HB 5698
- Legal Cases
  - Andary vs. Citizens challenges the constitutionality (state level) of applying the fee schedule and family provided attendant care to people injured before the law
    - Supreme Court will hear case in March
  - Healthcall Detroit vs. State Farm challenges the constitutionality (federal level)
    of the fee schedule's impact on ability for businesses to continue to operate



#### What's next?

- Andary lawsuit at the Supreme Court
- November 8 election
- Continued need for issue awareness and advocacy

## **Impact for Community Providers**

- More people injured in car crashes will be reliant on public programs
  - Case Management/Coordination
  - Vocational services
  - Housing
  - Long-term care/life planning



# Conclusion and Questions

- What's at stake?
  - Rehab and care of <u>current</u> <u>and future</u> people injured in a car crash
  - Economic impact and social welfare programs
- Get involved:
  - Join a coalition partner (MBIPC, BIAMI, CPAN, We Can't Wait, Interfaith Coalition)
  - Raise awareness of the issue
  - Advocate engage with your legislators

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