



PHP: Outreach to Physicians Broadens

By Roland W. Gray, MD
TMF Medical Director

As of December 31, 2011, the total number of healthcare professionals identified to the TMF Physicians Health Program since January 2002 is 1,502. We have 169 participants under contract. There are 170 participants enrolled in and being monitored by the urine drug screening program, 33 of whom are voluntarily enrolled post contract. We currently have 11 participants in inpatient treatment. Since the last report, five participants have successfully completed their contracts and 14 participants have signed new contracts. Over the past 10 years our outreach has broadened and today, over 50 percent of our referrals are issues other than alcohol and substance use disorders.

In addition to the day-to-day operation of the Physician Health Program, the PHP continues to educate medical professionals both statewide and abroad about the spectrum of services the Tennessee Physician Health Program provides. Appropriately, our presentations have expanded

from talking solely about alcohol and drugs to teaching about proper prescribing practices, appropriate professional boundaries, disruptive behavior in the workplace, and all aspects of professionalism. I also serve as a consultant to the FDA's subcommittee on Drugs and Medical Risk Management.

As of December 31, 2011, Mike Todd, our administrator, is involved with the case management of 68 participants, most of whom require quarterly reports to the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners. He is also involved in assisting participants with pre-board issues.

Vince Parrish, LCSW, continues as Compliance Coordinator. The work site monitor program is now fully operational. He is also assisting Michael Todd with fund-raising.

Jeanne Breard continues as field coordinator and manages the cases of those physicians currently under contract who do not have BME involvement. She follows each physician under contract at least quarterly and travels to Memphis, Jackson,

Chattanooga, Knoxville and Johnson City at least twice per year to meet with physicians face-to-face in those locations. The total number of cases being managed by Ms. Breard as of December 31, 2011, is 93.

If you or a colleague can use the assistance of the PHP, please contact me at the address and phone number below. Our program is conducted in complete confidence and has over a 90-percent success rate in restoring physicians to their duties as healthcare professionals. +

To make a tax deductible contribution to the Physicians Health Program, contact TMF Administrator Mike Todd at 615-467-6411; write to the Tennessee Medical Foundation, 216 Centerview Dr., Ste. 304, Brentwood, TN 37027; or visit www.e-tmf.org.



IDENTIFICATIONS	2011 YTD	TOTALS
Chemical	64	666
Behavioral	36	421
Psychiatric	14	137
Sexual Boundary	3	82
Over-prescribing	8	60
BME Referrals	0	57
Other/ Consultations	18	79
TOTALS	143	1502