



# Elderberry Institute eNews

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## ***Welcome to the Network!***

- Cathy Bray - Nurse, *Nokomis*
- Cara Bailey - Board Member, *Payne Phalen*
- Lois Rayburne - Board Member, *Payne Phalen*
- Jeane Pearson - Board Member, *Payne Phalen*
- Sharon Kalmes - Board Member, *Payne Phalen*
- Chris Hupe - Service Coordinator, *Foley*
- Mary Anderson - Board Chair, *Tri-Community*

## ***Farewell & Good Luck***

- Diane Thorsten - Service Coordinator, *Foley*
- Rob Tiffany - Board Chair, *Park Rapids*
- Laura Muenchow - Database & Admin, *Elderberry*

## ***Important Dates:***

- **April 3** - 2008 Day at the Capitol
- **April 4** - CMCOA Q3 Reports Due
- **April 4** - MAAA-MCCC Q3 Reports Due
- **April 4** - VOA Q3 Reports Due
- **April 10** - CSG-SPICE Data & Financials Due
- **April 10** - CSG Q3 Financial Report Due
- **April 10** - CDOE Q3 Reports Due
- **April 16** - MDH Arthritis Reports Due
- **April 25** - Quarterly Services Report Q3 (ALL LAH/BNPs)
- **April 25** - Program Narrative (ALL LAH/BNPs)
- **April 30** - DHS Financial Report Q3 (Base-Funded Programs)

## ***Elderberry News: Muenchow says Goodbye***

As most of you have heard, Elderberry Institute says goodbye to Database Consultant & Senior Administrative Assistant, Laura Muenchow. Laura joined the Elderberry staff as Administrative Assistant in July of 2005. Due to staff restructuring in 2006, Laura gained added responsibilities and has spent much of her time over the last two years traveling MN and providing support for the Elderberry Database System among other duties. In her nearly three years at Elderberry, Laura has enjoyed serving the Programs and supporting Elderberry's mission.

Laura leaves us to take a new position as Membership Coordinator for the Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce. Her primary role will be to work with the many committee members who volunteer their time to the Chamber. She will also manage the Chamber website and produce the monthly newsletter.

Laura has formed many great relationships during her time at Elderberry and truly appreciates the support she has received from the LAH/BNP network.

**\*\* Save the Date - 2008 All-Site Conferences\*\***  
**Thursday, Sept. 18th and Friday, Sept. 19th**  
**Kelly Inn - St. Cloud, MN**

## ***Legislative Update - Day at the Capitol***

The 2008 Day at the Capitol is almost here! On Thursday, April 3rd send your Program representative to St. Paul!

The LAH/BNP Network needs to show a strong attendance at the capitol to support our 2008 initiative. As a reminder, the effort this year is to obtain a transfer of dollars from the CS/SD grant pool of dollars to a one-time grant of \$20,000 to each of the nine currently operating LAH/BNPs in Minnesota who do not currently have a base grant. While we would like to do more, with a state funding deficit and short session, it is not possible this year.

The nine local Programs that will receive the \$20,000 for FY2009 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009) are: Foley, Frazee, Holdingford, McGregor, Middle River-Thief Lake, Pelican Rapids, Pine Island, Silver Bay, and North East Neighborhoods. In addition, if the funds are appropriated, new communities being developed in Dayton's Bluff, Glenville, and Willmar would be eligible for \$20,000 in FY2009.

While it is important that all Programs participate, it is critically important that Programs that will be eligible for the one year grant funds be visible and have a relationship with their legislators (both House and Senate members).

You should have already received the packet of materials about the day and talking points for your legislator. For more information or to request a Day at the Capitol Agenda, please call Elderberry Institute and ask for Chris at 800-320-1707.

## ***Network Update - New CDS Enrollees***

Great news! Two elderly waiver consumers from Sherburne County have chosen Elderberry Institute as their Fiscal Support Entity for Consumer Directed Services. An additional two Elderly Waiver consumers, one from Hennepin County and another from Ramsey County have selected EI to be their FSE and are awaiting county approval.

Elderberry Institute is continuing as the Fiscal Support Entity for the following CDS grants and in the following areas:

- Title III-Caregiver Support and Title III-Nutrition is available in the Metropolitan and Central Minnesota Area
- CDS-Memory Care is available in the Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging and the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging
- Private Pay is available with some financial help for qualifying individuals throughout the entire state of Minnesota.

As of March 2008, a total of 23 consumers are using CDS through the above sources and funds are available for other eligible consumers. Contact Eleni Messiou for further information on and to receive education and training regarding CDS.