



415 Munson Avenue, P.O. Box 947
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-1947
231.946.1722 ph, 231.946.2762 fax
www.dgncpa.com

Thomas E. Gartland, CPA
Brad P. Niergarth, CPA
James G. Shumate, CPA
Robert C. Thompson, CPA
Michael D. Shaw, CPA
Mary F. Krantz, CPA
Shelly K. Bedford, CPA
Heidi M. Wendel, CPA

AUDIT-RELATED COMMUNICATIONS

To the Board of Directors
Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities, the major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority (the "Authority") for the year ended September 30, 2010. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, and *Government Auditing Standards* as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated October 19, 2010. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed test of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. Our report on compliance accompanies our report on the financial statements.

We also performed a compliance examination in accordance with *CMH Compliance Examinations Guidelines*, issued by the Michigan Department of Community Health, and have issued a separate report on that examination dated January 31, 2011.

Internal Controls

As part of our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified. Our report on internal controls accompanies our report on the financial statements.

Member of



415 Munson Avenue, Post Office Box 947
Traverse City, Michigan 49685-0947
231.946.1722, FAX: 231.946.2762
www.dgncpa.com

The following additional matter is not considered to be a material weakness or significant deficiency in internal control, but is an informational item that may be an opportunity to strengthen internal controls, reporting and operating efficiency:

Building Notes Payable

We noted the Authority has a few building notes payable that will be paid off in the next few years, and cash restricted for future debt payments. The Board may wish to use the restricted cash to pay off the notes early, thereby saving funds that would have been spent on interest expense.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2010. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements were: the useful lives of fixed assets in determining depreciation expense and the cash settlement under State contracts.

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on management's approved capitalization policy detailing the useful lives of its fixed assets. Management's estimate of initial cash settlements under State contracts are based on procedures provided by the Michigan Department of Community Health. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used in determining depreciation expense and managed care cash settlements in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. You may find Note B related to cash to be particularly sensitive.

No Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements.

No Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated January 31, 2011.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Authority's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

We wish to thank the staff of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health for their assistance during the audit.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors, Michigan Departments of Community Health and Treasury, management and others within the Authority and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

To the Board of Directors
Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority
Page 4

We commend the Authority for its excellent recordkeeping system and appreciate the opportunity to serve the Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority. If you have any questions, or if we can of further services, please feel free to contact us.

Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth

January 31, 2011