



Here to Help: Annual PHP Activity Report

Roland W. Gray, M.D.

The Physicians Health Program (PHP) of the Tennessee Medical Foundation (TMF) is an organization of *physicians helping physicians*.

Every year, the TMF reports the status of the Physicians Health Program to the TMA House of Delegates (HOD). Our report includes statistical information on PHP participants, details of our progress in attracting financial support, a clinical staff update and an accounting of how successful we have been with doctors across the state. We provide this report to the HOD for two purposes: 1) a portion of the dues of every TMA member provides financial support for the TMF; and 2) we believe it is important for every TMA member to have an up-to-date accounting of the status of their peers across the state (See "Clinical Program Statistics").

Physicians in need of help are normally identified through a confidential report to the PHP by a family member, practice partner, office staff, hospital or the Board of Medical Examiners. After verification of a reported problem, I meet with the physician to offer PHP help in getting an assessment of their health at an independent facility. If the assessment indicates in-patient treatment is appropriate and the physician seeks such treatment at their own expense, the PHP assumes an advocacy role during and on completion of successful treatment. Aftercare for chemical dependency is a five-year process guided by an individualized contract between the physician and the PHP. The success rate of those completing their contract with the TMF remains greater than 90 percent.

The goal of the TMF is to identify, assist and advocate on behalf of physicians with alcohol or drug problems and/or psychiatric and behavioral difficulties. It has always been my conviction that these problems are treatable, and, in most cases, we are able to assist in a process that restores physicians to their duties as healthcare professionals.

Tennessee Medical Foundation Physicians Health Program

Clinical Program Statistics: The following statistics detail the activity of the Physicians Health Program for 2005:

Identifications	1st Quarter	2nd	3rd	4th	2005 Total
Chemical	33	25	13	27	98
Behavioral	11	11	13	19	54
Psychiatric	5	2	5	6	18
Sexual Boundary	6	1	3	5	15
Overprescribing	3	0	2	0	5
BME Referrals- Licensure Assessment	3	3	0	0	6
TOTALS	61	42	36	57	196

Ongoing Aftercare & Treatment: The total estimated number of participants presently being assisted by the TMF PHP is **595**. This includes all participants under contract, those still requiring advocacy in the workplace, all those involved in aftercare, and the current statistics for 2005. Currently, **157** participants are enrolled in and being monitored by the urine drug screening program.

Field Coordinator: TMF PHP Field Coordinator Vince Parrish, LCSW, has had one-on-one visits with **176 participants** currently under contract with the TMF, requiring quarterly visits. Additionally, Mr. Parrish visits each of the nine Caduceus groups located statewide in Memphis, Jackson, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Cookeville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Johnson City and Kingsport.

To make a tax deductible contribution to the Physicians Health Program, contact TMF Administrator Michael Todd at (615) 467-6411 or write to the Tennessee Medical Foundation, 216 Centerview Drive, Suite 304, Brentwood, TN 37027.

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