



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Upper Peninsula Project Goes to Washington, D. C.**

[MARQUETTE]—An Upper Peninsula project to promote safe and consistent medicine prescription was recently presented to a national audience in Washington, D. C.

The project—*Managing Prescribing Cost and Quality Among Independent Health Care Entities*—is a collaboration of the Upper Peninsula Health Care Network and the Upper Peninsula Health Plan. It brings together physicians and pharmacists from throughout the region to develop a cooperative system for prescribing medicine.

The project was presented in Washington at the U.S. Office of Rural Health Policy’s All Programs Meeting during the last week of August. The meeting was attended by more than 800 organizations with rural health-care concerns. The Upper Peninsula project is partially funded by a grant from the Office of Rural Health Policy.

Representing the project in Washington were Karen Kimar of the Health Care Network and Sheryl Waudby of the Health Plan. They traveled with a display describing the project’s accomplishments, met with other meeting attendees, and distributed project brochures.

The project’s work is accomplished by an Upper Peninsula Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, with representation from Upper Peninsula hospitals, the Health Care Network, and the Health Plan. The committee reviews drugs and makes prescribing recommendations. Its goal is to promote regional pharmaceutical care that is safe, clinically appropriate, and cost-effective.



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