Recap of an Evening of Enlightenment

By Martha D. Burkett

The Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program’s Brighton Hospital Richard Steinberg Memorial treatment fund benefit dinner, “Evening of Enlightenment,” was held April 15 at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Of the 100 people in attendance, 10 were judges; the 36th District Court held the record in the unofficial category for best showing with 16 people in attendance. Net proceeds for this year’s event totaled $8,600, all of which will be used to assist attorneys who are in need of mental health or substance-use treatment and face financial challenges. Donations to the treatment fund are tax deductible and may be made in any amount at any time. To make a donation, visit https://www.brightonhospital.org/Events/fundraisingregistrationform.aspx.

Thank you to all who showed support for this year’s event! Please mark your calendar for April 14, 2011, and watch for details about the third annual “Evening of Enlightenment” in upcoming issues of the Michigan Bar Journal.

“It far surpassed my expectations—definitely a worthwhile event.”

“Not what I expected, but better; I will mark my calendar for next year’s event!”

— SBM President-Elect W. Anthony Jenkins and Vice President Julie Fershtman, commenting on their respective experiences at the second annual “Evening of Enlightenment,” featuring international guest speaker Amiram Elwork

Martha D. Burkett is the program administrator for the State Bar of Michigan Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program. Ms. Burkett has completed her master’s degrees in public administration and in counseling education, and is both a licensed professional counselor and a nationally certified counselor. She has completed graduate certification in holistic health and has achieved level II certification in addictions counseling. She is certified as an advanced level board certified interventionist and as an approved clinical supervisor.

Photos by Scott Masi

1. L–R: Lawrence Ghannam, St. John Providence Hospital; and keynote speaker Dr. Amiram Elwork.
2. L–R: Jeffrey McMichael, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law student; and Tim Batdorf, Tim Batdorf, PC. 3. L–R: SBM Executive Director Janet Welch and Ted Everingham, Brighton Hospital Board of Trustees. 4. L–R: SBM Executive Director Janet Welch; Denise Bertin-Epp, Brighton Hospital president; Stephanie Brady, St. John system administrator; and Martha Burkett, SBM program administrator, LJAP.
The Lawyers and Judges Assistance Committee (LJAC) and the Brighton National Addiction Foundation would like to thank the following for their support of the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program fundraiser:

Joseph Nuyen Jr., Nuyen Tomtishen and Aoun, P.C. ($5,000)
Hon. Donald Allen
Monica Barbour
Lori A. Buiteweg
Larry Campbell
Bruce Coneybeare
Robert Costello
Beverly Curtiss
Dawn Evans
Mary Gaughan
Victoria Green
Charles Harrison
Bruce Leitman
Hon. Renee McDuffee
Alison Paton
John F. Runcie
Hon. Sara J. Smolenski
Richard Suhrheinrich
Samuel L. Westernan Foundation
Mary Ann Zarembski

5. Master of Ceremonies Ted Everingham, Brighton Hospital Board of Trustees. 6. L–R: Richard and Deborah Zerafa; Tom Gilbert, LJAP Committee; and SBM Executive Director Janet Welch.