



UP to the MINUTE

October 2023

Executive Director -
Danielle Sirianni
The Frederick Group

Michigan County Social Services Association
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message from MCSSA
President Grenae Dudley.
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and more important dates.
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2022-2023 Officers

*Grenae Dudley-White -
Oakland, President*

*Allan Bruder -
Presque Isle,
Vice-President*

*Shelley Boehmer - Life
Member
Immediate Past President*

Christy Hilgers - Houghton

*Sandy Cook -
Ionia/Montcalm, Treasurer*

Wayne Buskirk - Life Member

District I
*Linda Kinnunen - Baraga
Jamie Lemay - Marquette*

District II
*Naomi Deo - Montmorency
Tammy Emig - Oscoda
Don Bartosh - Alpena*

District III
*Wayne Buskirk - Life Member
Yvonne Hebert - Wexford*

District IV
Bob VanderZwaag - Ottawa



President's Message: October 2023

If you were not present at the Annual Conference, you missed an outstanding line of presenters, as well as the opportunity to meet and directly engage MDHHS Senior Deputy Director for Economic Stability Administration, Dwayne Haywood, and MDHHS Senior Deputy Director for Children's Services Administration, Demetrius Starling. Both gentlemen did not just "present and run," but they stayed and interacted with board members and staff. They provided an opportunity to directly address questions and concerns unique to our various counties. They gave accolades to MCSSA and shared their commitment to our efforts and their continued support of our organization.

Our hats go off to Bob VanderZwaag and the Education and Development committee for the selection of presenters that truly educated us as we moved from Baby Stage to the Golden Age. I believe in continuing education and was able to walk away from Mt. Pleasant savoring a number of AHA! moments that are readily applicable to my everyday work. Dr. Wilson's presentation on the contributions, challenges and opportunities from the different generations allowed us to see how the various generations are impacting the workforce and gain a new perspective in looking at our multigenerational constituents that come to our counties in need of resources and assistance. Rene Beniak shared the challenges of our medical care facilities and highlighted the expanded role and responsibilities of DHHS board members with medical care facilities in their counties. Scott Wamsby shared the numerous services that the newly formed MDHHS' Bureau of Aging, Community, Living and Supports provides, far beyond Meals on Wheels. Eric Hufnagel shared advocacy for policies that address systems issues such as poverty, housing, and health care. Robin Grinnell highlighted our P2P programs. Dr. Joseph Sowmick taught us about cultural health, disparities, historical trauma, and healing. He put meaning behind Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. I watched our audience and saw how they were completely captivated by his presentation that truly painted a picture of his culture.

It was a real delight to meet new board members and network with those we had not seen in a while. The President's Challenge was over the top. What can I say but Thank You...Thank You...Thank You!!! I asked that you bring can goods to be donated to the Food Bank in Mt. Pleasant. Literally the table overflowed. What an incredible, overwhelming response. MCSSA, you showed up and you showed out.

Frederick Group, Danielle, Nancy, and Mike: there were no lose ends. You assisted with selecting and engaging our speakers, assured Representative Neyer was present and accounted for, and hosted a lively, well-attended reception. Your coordination of effort

District V
Barb Hanneke - St. Clair

District VI
Sherrie Ross - Oakland
Harry Wilson - Jackson

Large County
Representatives

Bruce McCoy - Kent
Vacant - Macomb
Sherrie Ross - Oakland
Vacant - Wayne

Members at Large
Janice Covey - Mecosta
MiWha McBrien - Wayne
Twanetta Ingram - Ingham

showed and was greatly appreciated. You helped to create a tension-free atmosphere by dotting the I's and crossing all the T's, from helping to build out the program, the whimsical cards on the tables, and coordination of the auction (even though I was outbid on several items!!!). Thank you for the job WELL DONE.

As we start a new year there will be old and new challenges ahead. I look forward to working with those who stepped up to help do the work of our organization. Our Vice President Alen Bruder will serve as chair of our Finance Committee and will lead our audit team. Thanks to Brian DeKraker and Mark Wolf who stepped up to be part of that team. Sherri Ross has accepted the appointment of Parliamentarian, Barbara Lee and Tracey Fountain have agreed to join the education and development committee. From my view....we are headed in the right direction.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 2023

10/10 – Finance @ 10am, Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

10/11 - Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

10/23 – Listen & Learn

NOVEMBER 2023

11/7 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

11/8 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

DECEMBER 2023

12/12 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

12/13 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

APRIL 2023

4/9-4/10 – Legislative Conference

To attend any of these meetings via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4565476684>

Meeting ID: 456 547 6684

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Danielle Sirianni, Frederick Group.



Michigan County Social Services Association

Development and Education Committee Minutes

August 8, 2023 @ 1:00 pm

In Attendance:

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa
Ceylon Bettis – Saginaw
Christy Hilgers – Houghton
Danielle Sirianni – TFG
Nancy Peacock – TFG

Kitty Packard – Saginaw
Allan Bruder – Presque Isle
Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm
Kendra Spanjer – Ottawa

- 1) Call to Order – Bob VanderZwaag called to order @ 1:04 pm
- 2) Review of Minutes from June 13,2023 – motion to accept by Kitty Packard, with correction of the word “packets”, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
- 3) Approval of Agenda – motion to accept Sandy Cook, seconded by Ceylon Bettis, motion carried.
- 4) Ongoing Business
 - a. Annual conference – September 11, 12 & 13, 2023
 - Mt. Pleasant Comfort Inn and Suites Conference Center, Bob went over the tentative agenda for all 3 days. He has talked with Dr. Wilson and is excited about her presentation, which is titled “Managing Relationships Across Generations”.
 - b. Conference theme: Baby Stage to Golden Age:
 - i. Update on progress of conference planning – conference is coming along nicely; we have 36 registered and are hoping to at least double that number. The hotel must be booked directly by members.
 - ii. Finalize conference schedule - is being finished up. Most sessions are already set.
 - iii. Silent Auction, Bob asked that districts try to get some item to donate for the silent auction. All proceeds go towards scholarship fund. Only 4 items so far.
 - c. Listen and Learn - dates and topics.
 - i. Thoughts: Last Listen and Learn, “Handle with Care”, presented by Zoe Lyons, Jackson County DHHS Director – Bob missed it but was informed that about 20 people attended. Was a great presentation and could be repeated or used at a conference. Sandy Cook shared the content of the presentation with the

Montcalm/Ionia board, and they showed interest. Great thing to share with others.

- ii. Additional topics for future Listen and Learn sessions
 - October is Domestic Violence month and that will be the topic for Listen and Learn, will be held on Oct 23rd, time TBA. Renee Courier-Aumock from Bay County will be the presenter. There will be a flyer put into the conference packets with all the final details.

5) New Business

- a. New Board Member orientation – 11am on Monday before conference begins is scheduled and possibly a zoom presentation later.
- b. Update of web site – Website design company representative is joining the Board of Directors meeting to discuss what they offer. Bob stated that the website needs to be updated and information available at all members’ fingertips.
- c. Logo contest – we have had 2 entries and are asking more members to spread the word and get more ideas submitted. Extended time for more entries.

6) Adjourn – Bob VanderZwaag adjourned meeting @ 1:33 pm

The next meeting will be October 10, 2023, 1:00pm via Zoom or in person

Legislative Committee Minutes

August 8, 2023 @ 2:30 pm

In Attendance:

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa

Kitty Packard – Saginaw

Christy Hilgers – Houghton

Katie Zeiter -DHHS

Patrick Schaefer – MIPP

Yvonne Hebert – Wexford/Missaukee

Mike Frederick - TFG

Sharon Campbell – Oakland

Allan Bruder – Presque Isle

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Tasha Welch – DHHS

Ceylon Bettis – Saginaw

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Nancy Peacock – TFG

- 1) **Call to Order** – Sharon Campbell called to order @ 2:30 pm.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes- June 13, 2023** -motion to accept Allan Bruder, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried.
- 3) **Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda** -motion to accept by Ceylon Bettis, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.

4) **Updates & Information, Sharon Campbell** – nothing to report currently.

5) **Updates & Information from External Meeting Participants**

- MI League for Public Policy – Patrick Schaefer introduced himself. He is the Economic Security Analyst who replaced Peter Ruark. Reported the Kid Count book will be released on 8/23/23.
- E & T – nothing to report.
- Representatives from MDHH Legislative Affairs Division – Katie Zeiter mentioned that they are in a new budget and may have an increase for vehicle repairs and prescriptions and food programs for children.

6) **Legislative Bills Update** – Mike Frederick talked about Taha retention problem, and we need to ask Dwayne Haywood about positions in the department are they new jobs or to replace other workers? The Budget was signed by the Governor, nothing new on session and Rep Young has been in to touch with the Marijuana bill. Mike added that the fall agenda has a mental health focus, that will be updated after Labor Day.

7) **Pending Legislation Information, Recommendations and Updates**

a. Child and Family Services, Sharon Campbell:

- i. HB 4893 – Danielle Sirianni reported that there is a lot to this bill. It's a huge overhaul of health care, a universal coverage plan and would need to be fully funded. Instead of federally funded it would be state funded. It would have the name "MI Care Act". The speaker and minority leader would each nominate 13 candidates from which the Governor would select 13 members with the advice and consent of the Senate. It would impact DHHS staff. Danielle Sirianni recommended we table and take no action; we will keep an eye on it. Sharon Campbell agreed to table it and Ceylon Bettis added until we have more information, she felt we should table it. Kitty Packard motion to table and Sandy Cook seconded, motion carried. Will be brought to the Board of Directors meeting on August 9, 2023

b. Standard of Living:

- i. No Pending Legislation – nothing currently.

8) **Unfinished Business** - nothing currently.

9) **New Business** – Bob VanderZwaag gave an update on the Annual Conference.

10) **Adjournment** – Bob VanderZwaag made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ceylon Bettis. Motion Carried. Sharon Campbell adjourned @ 2:58 pm

Next Meeting: October 10, 2023, 2:30pm via Zoom or in person

Advisory Committee Minutes

August 9, 2023 @ 8:00 am

In Attendance:

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa

Naomi Deo – Montmorency

Allan Bruder – Presque Isle

Yvonne Hebert – Wexford/Missaukee

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Nancy Peacock – TFG

Grenae Dudley – Oakland

Sherrie Ross – Oakland

Christy Hilgers – Houghton

Kitty Packard – Saginaw

Demetrius Starling –MDHHS

Mike Frederick – TFG

- 1. Call to Order** – Naomi Deo, called to order @ 8:01 am
- 2. Approval of Minutes – June 14, 2023** – motion to accept by Kitty Packard, seconded by Bob VanderZwaag, motion carried.
- 3. Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda** – motion to approve by Sherrie Ross, seconded by Allan Bruder, motion carried.
- 4. MDHHS Updates from Dwayne Haywood** - unavailable
- 5. MDHHS Updates from Demetrius Starling** -Demetrius reports that in Foster Care there are 9320 kids that is a decrease of 31 kids that are going back home or to another permanent placement. The departments are getting new specialists to provide support to families, less going to care homes, families getting help so they can stay together. Teaming up with GM and Ford, etc. for higher money for parents. There are 4 kids in out- of- state homes, 1 was brought home. There were 2 lives lost due to unsafe sleep deaths and 2 others from medical needs who were medically fragile. Want to get youth violence addressed, talking to public/communities/leaders/etc. 7 Foster Homes were added and Demetrius has been talking to radio stations about the importance of Foster Homes. Royal Oak Annual Mayor Conference is September 16, 2023, and will push to adopt. Six Family Resource Centers are up and running and would like to add 3 more. Amazing work being done, “one stop, shop”. Several services being offered under one roof. The value to communities is high. Vista Maria is in the process of making arrangements for a respite program so kids and parents could have a break from each other.
- 6. District Reports:**
 - District I – Christy Hilgers reported that their next meeting will be 8/25/23. This will be their 1st totally in-person meeting at a restaurant since before Covid.
 - District II -Allan Bruder reported that their last meeting was on 7/27/23 was a nice turnout. They had a good meeting, updates and future plans were discussed: 4 directors attended.
 - District III -Yvonne Herbert report their next meeting will be held at the Annual Conference. They will elect officers and they want to have 1 meeting away from the office.
 - District IV -Bob VanderZwaag reported that they will have their next meeting at the Annual Conference.

- District V -Kitty Packard report that their last meeting was held 7/12/23. They had a Zoom presenter “Holly Miller from United Way – Lift”. It was a good presentation, and their next meeting will be at the Annual Conference.
 - District VI -Sherrie Ross reported that their next meeting will be held at the Annual Conference.
- 7. Unfinished Business** – nothing currently
 - 8. New Business** -Kalamazoo Director is interested in MCSSA. Grenae Dudley and Bob VanderZwaag to set up a conference call. Bob VanderZwaag has made contact and is waiting to hear back.
 - 9. Adjournment** – Allan Bruder motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried. Adjourned @ 8:47 am.

The next meeting will be October 11, 2023 @ 8:00 am via Zoom or in person

Board of Directors Minutes

August 9, 2023 @ 10:30 am

In Attendance:

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa

Kitty Packard – Saginaw

Allan Bruder – Presque Isle

Sharon Campbell - Oakland

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Christy Hilgers – Houghton

Brian Hatcher & Jerome – Azula Web

Nancy Peacock – TFG

Grenae Dudley - Oakland

Sherrie Ross - Oakland

Yvonne Herbert _ Wexford/Missaukee

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Naomi Deo – Montmorency

Barb Hanneke – St. Clair

Mike Frederick - TFG

- 1) Call to order** – Grenae Dudley called order @ 10:31 am
- 2) Disposition of Minutes from June 14, 2023**, motion to accept by Kitty Packard, seconded by Barb Hanneke, motion carried.
- 3) Additions/Corrections/Approval of the Agenda**, motion to accept by Allan Bruder, seconded by Barb Hanneke, motion carried.
- 4) Announcements/Correspondence** –
 - Frederick Group: What we have done, TFG sent out a list of the progress made since last meeting.
 - TFG contract –There will be no increase in fees. Motion to renew both service contracts made by Allan Bruder, seconded by Sharon Campbell, motion carried. Mike Frederick will meet with Grenae Dudley to get both contracts signed.
 - Banking – there are 7 accounts, 2 are restricted for Districts 1 & 3. An update on investments will be brought in front of the Financial Committee.

- 5) **President's Report – Grenae Dudley-White** stated that mental health issues are on the rise, and everyone needs to be aware. We are losing kids from these issues.
- 6) **Treasurer's Report – Sandy Cook** stated that all is good with the report. Motion to accept was made by Allan Bruder, seconded by Naomi Deo, motion carried.
 - a. **Finance Committee Update** – no update currently
- 7) **MCMCFC Report/NACo Liaison – Renee Beniak**, Renee was unavailable.
- 8) **Advisory Committee Report – Naomi Deo** gave a recap of Demetrius Starlings talk. There is a reduction in the numbers of children in foster care, working on getting foster parents more money. Mental health is front of everything else, creating more Family Resource Centers. Vista Maria is trying a therapeutic treatment. There are new FIP positions combining economic stability and Child Welfare roles.
- 9) **Legislative Updates**
 - a. Legislative updates – Bill 4893 was discussed; it would provide universal health care. There are lots of ifs with this bill. It would replace all existing programs: MICHild, Medicare, etc. Bill will be tabled and tracked. Will keep an eye on it. Motion to table but keep an eye on it was made by Sharon Campbell, seconded by Allan Bruder, motion carried.
- 10) **Committee/Liaison Reports –**
 - a. **Development and Education Committee: Bob VanderZwaag**
 - a. Conference updates – Bob VanderZwaag stated that the agenda is close to being finalized. Tuesday is our featured speaker, Dr. Eileen Wilson. Her presentation “Managing Roles Across Generations”, looks to be a good presentation. He promoted the registration for the conference and reminded everyone that counties will reimburse conference fees.
 - b. **MAC – Bob VanderZwaag shared that MAC takes summers off – June, July & August.**
 - c. **MCAH/ Michigan Health Policy Forum – Shelley Jipson-Lomax** was unavailable,
 - d. **Michigan Overdose Data Action Committee – Grenae Dudley-White** informed the board that they meet quarterly. Michigan received a settlement; current is 700 million and 50% goes to the state and 50% goes to communities most impacted. The counties need to apply for the money. Need committees to see if and how OD can be prevented.
- 11) **District Reports from Advisory Committee Members –**
 - a. District I – Christy Hilgers reported that their next meeting will be 8/25/23. This will be their 1st totally in-person meeting at a restaurant since before Covid.
 - b. District II – Allan Bruder reported that their last meeting on 7/27/23 was a nice turnout. They had a good meeting, updates and future plans were discussed; 4 directors attended.
 - c. District III – Yovonne Herbert reported their next meeting will be held at the Annual Conference. They will elect officers and they want to have 1 meeting away from the office.
 - d. District IV – Bob VanderZwaag reported that they will have their next meeting at the Annual Conference.

- e. District V – Kitty Packard reported that their last meeting was held 7/12/23. They had a Zoom presenter “Holly Miller from United Way “LIFT”. It was a good presentation, and their next meeting will be at the Annual Conference
- b. District VI – Sherrie Ross reported that their next meeting will be held at the Annual Conference.

12) Unfinished Business – nothing currently

13) New Business –

- a. Brian Hatcher – Website presentation – Brian explained the 3 tiers of the program prices. Member log -in could be used but not included in the base price. Would be able to download minutes, agendas, flyers, etc. We could download or have them add the information for us. They will design the webpage and put all the information on our page. Will send out questionnaires and roughly 4 weeks after the questionnaires are returned the web page will be created. Member login will cost \$500 to set up and then a monthly fee, secured files with names, phone numbers and emails. Can add this feature anytime. WuFoo to Pay Pal is how you would pay for conference fees online. Could also set up a scholarship donation fund. Barb Hanneke motioned to accept the \$89.00 package, seconded by Yvonne Hebert, motion carried.
- b. Logo Contest – We have had 2 logo designs sent in, will extend time for more options, and will push at conference for participation.

14) Adjournment – Sharon Campbell motion to adjourn, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried.

Next meeting October 11, 2023, 10:30am via Zoom or in person

MCSSA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2023

Comfort Inn & Suites, Mt. Pleasant, Mi

- I. Called to order by Grenae Dudley @12:12 pm. Motion to accept and approve 2022 Annual Business minutes was made by Carole Edstrom, seconded by Juanita Gittings, motion carried.
- II. Legislative Consultant’s remarks – Danielle Sirianni stated that the marijuana bill is in draft mode. HB 4200 and SB 31 are pending approval to require doctors to screen young children for lead poisoning. (Note: As of 9-19-23 passed both House & Senate). HB 4085 and HB 4664 are in committee. HB 4675-4678 are under consideration in the House. She explained what “sine die” means; this is when the legislation can be permanently ended.
- III. Review of past year was given by Grenae Dudley. MCSSA signed contracts with The Frederick Group for management and lobbying on our behalf.
- IV. Moved by Sherrie Ross that due for 2023/24 remain the same as specified on the dues schedule, seconded by Juanita Gittings. Approved.

- V. 2023/24 annual budget was presented, Sherrie Ross motioned to accept, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried. Treasurer’s report-motion to accept made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Laura Linebaugh, motion carried.
 - VI. Bob VanderZwaag reported that the nominating committee proposed no changes in current officers. There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. Sherrie Ross moved to adopt the slate of officers as presented. Seconded by Ceylon Bettis. The following officers were approved: President, Grenae Dudley; Vice-President, Allan Bruder; Secretary, Christy Hilgers; Treasurer, Sandy Cook. Grenae Dudley announced two appointments; Allan Bruder will chair the Financial Audit Committee and Sherrie Ross will serve as Parliamentarian.
 - VII. Executive Director, Danielle Sirianni gave an update on the changes The Frederick Group have made. Web site is the process of being updated, she asked members to submit the conference evaluation sheets and the important role they play in planning the next conference. Danielle Sirianni also asked for any member to submit a drawing of any new logo ideas, we are planning on updating the MCSSA/MCSCET logo.
 - a. Recognition of District Presidents was given.
 - b. Recognition of Committee Chairs and members was also given.
 - VIII. Recess for MCSCET Annual Business Meeting was made by Allan Bruder, seconded by Sherrie Ross, motion carried.
 - IX. Return to MSCCA Annual Business Meeting @ 1:18 pm.
 - X. Motion to adjourn was made by Laura Linebaugh, seconded by Ceylon Bettis, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned @ 1:20 pm.
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MCSCET ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

September 12,2023

Comfort Inn & Suites, Mt. Pleasant, Mi

- I. Grenae Dudley called the meeting to order @ 1:02 pm. The budget was accepted. Motion to accept by Sherrie Ross, seconded by Rita Hale, motion carried. The financial report was okay per Sandy Cook. Moved to accept by Kitty Packard, seconded by Ceylon Bettis, motion carried.
- II. Recognition of the Development and Education Committee. Grenae Dudley stated that Bob VanderZwaag is doing a great job. Every month he makes the trip to Lansing for the monthly meetings. He has done a great job with the Development and Education Committees in planning the conferences. Mel Haga added his praise for how Bob VanderZwaag came into MCSSA office after Mel Haga retired and as a volunteer “saved MCSSA”. Bob VanderZwaag received a standing ovation. The committee members were also recognized.
- III. Future Conference sites are as follows:
 - a. 2024 Mid-Year Legislative Conference will be held in Lansing @ The Double Tree Hotel (formally The Radisson) on April 9 & 10, 2024. The change from March to April is to allow for better weather for those traveling and to have more legislators in attendance.
 - b. 2024 Annual Business Conference will be held @ Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City on September 16, 17, & 18, 2023.

c. 2025 Mid-Year Legislative Conference will be held in Lansing @ The Double Tree Hotel in April 2025

d. 2025 Annual Business Conference meeting, TBA

IV. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Allan Bruder, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @1:17 pm.



MCSSA Presents:

Listen & Learn

AN INFORMATIVE SESSION FEATURING:

RENEE AUMOCK

CAREER NAVIGATOR WITH THE BAY-ARENAC
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Join speaker Renee Aumock for an informative session featuring information related to Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October.



Please join us October 23rd at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom!

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4565476684>

Meeting ID: 456 547 6684

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE
2024 MCSSA/MCSCET LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



APRIL 9th & 10th, 2024

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL

(Formally the Radisson Hotel)

Lansing, MI