



UP to the MINUTE

Executive Director
Danielle Sirianni
The Frederick
Group

Michigan County Social Services Association
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President Grenae Dudley.

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President's Message: August 2024

2024-2025 Officers

Grenae Dudley-White –
Oakland, President

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa, -
Acting Vice-President

Shelley Boehmer – Life
Member,
Immediate Past President

Christy Hilgers – Houghton
Secretary

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

District V
Barb Hanneke – St. Clair

I recently had the opportunity to train coalitions from across the state in Mt. Pleasant during an opioid coalition academy (OCA) sponsored by CADCA. CADCA is an international organization dedicated to reducing substance use and misuse through multi-sector community prevention coalitions. Hosting 5,000 community coalitions globally, CADCA's impact is significant. Leading this training with one of CADCA's Master trainers was an exciting experience.

The OCA focused on addressing the opioid epidemic affecting our communities, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. This three-week academy aims to strategically tackle this serious public health crisis. I encourage our MDHHS departments and boards to connect with the coalitions that participated and become partners in this effort. Engaging with these coalitions can help create protective factors to address the opioid epidemic.

We know youth who age out of foster care can face many challenges as they transition to adulthood, including:

- Housing: finding stable housing or becoming homeless
- Mental health: mental illness, depression, anxiety, and PTSD.

All the above significantly contribute to substance use. Many of the families that we serve experience generational trauma, security concerns, and are negatively affected by the social drivers of health (SDOH). SDOH are non-medical factors that affect health outcomes. These drivers include, but are not limited to, access to sustainable employment, transportation, access to health care, and quality education. They all are risk factors that can also contribute to substance use. Being part of the substance use coalitions in your counties places you at the table to help create protective factors that can address the opioid epidemic.

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
Twanetta Ingram - Ingham

Here are some of the coalitions you can connect with:

- Luce County Communities that Care
- Isabella Substance Awareness Coalition
- Kent County Opioid Task Force
- Samaritan’s Way (Muskegon)
- Act Drug Free Community Coalition (Dearborn Heights)
- Rise, Otsego Substance Free Coalition
- Ingham Substance Awareness and Prevention (ISAP)
- Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition
- Crawford Partnership to End Substance Misuse (Roscommon and Gaylord Michigan)
- Gratiot County Substance and Suicide Prevention Program
- Ingham Opioid Awareness Prevention Initiative (IOAPI) Collaborative
- Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative
- Iosco Substance Free Coalition
- Saginaw County Prevention Coalition

Please let me know if you reach out to the different coalitions and keep us informed on how you are engaging with them. Additionally, I would like to pass on to the Education and Development committee the opportunity to invite several of the coalitions to present at one of our Listen and Learns.

As we prepare for the upcoming annual conference in Traverse City, I am looking forward to seeing everyone. This year's theme, "Assembling the Puzzle of Mental Health," emphasizes the importance of holistic care and support. The conference will feature experts in the mental health field, sharing insights on the latest developments, treatments, and strategies for managing mental health. This aligns perfectly with our ongoing efforts to address the mental health challenges faced by those affected by the opioid epidemic and other community issues.

Take care of yourselves and those around you, and I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Conference!

To attend any 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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2024

8/13 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

8/14 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am, Executive Committee @ 9am & **Board of Directors @ 9:30 am (NEW TIME)**

8/15 – Hotel block ends for Conference

8/30 – Last day to register for the Annual Conference

SEPTEMBER 2024

9/16-9/18 – Annual Conference

OCTOBER 2024

10/8 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

10/9 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & **Board of Directors @ 9:30 am (NEW TIME)**

NOVEMBER 2024

11/12 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

11/13 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am, Executive Committee @ 9am & **Board of Directors @ 9:30 am (NEW TIME)**

DECEMBER 2024

12/10 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm

12/11 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & **Board of Directors @ 9:30 am (NEW TIME)**



Michigan County Social Services Association

Development and Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday June 11, 2024, 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Tom Brubaker – Saginaw

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Jenna Stanton - TFG

Christy Hilgers – Houghton

Kendra Spanjer – DHHS

Kitty Packard – Saginaw

Nancy Peacock – TFG

- 1) Call to Order – Bob VanderZwaag, Chairperson @ 1:02 pm
- 2) Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2024, motion to accept by Christy Hilgers, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
- 3) Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda – motion to accept by Kitty Packard, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
- 4) Ongoing Business
 - a. Legislative Conference 2025 –
 - i. Vote on Date: March 18th or April 8th or 9th -discussion with the pros and cons of the different dates. Christy made a motion to hold the Legislative conference on March 18, 2025, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
 - ii. Vote on one day conference, discussion was held, with one day only, hold in Heritage Hall with catered meals and have legislators attend throughout the day. No traveling to and from, everything under one roof. Motion to have a one-day conference was made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Christy Hilgers, motion carried.
 - b. Listen and Learn - dates and topics.

Listen and Learn - Future topics & Dates – August will be the next presentation, 2nd or 3rd Monday, 1 or 1:30 pm start time and 1 hour in length. Bob VanderZwaag suggested Mitten Meals. This is part of the Ottawa County "Journey Home" resource center for foster families. Frozen meals for foster families to grab when they need a quick, easy and good meal. Bob VanderZwaag and/or Kendra Spanjer will reach out and see if they would like to present. Kendra Spanjer gave suggestions from other directors for a Listen and Learn segment: Changes within juvenile justice. Each county has been handling this a bit differently and now there would be a state required assessment of risks and needs for each youth who enters the court system. Danielle Sirianni also gave a list of potential speakers. Bob VanderZwaag will keep her list for future use.

 - i. Annual Conference 2024 – “Assembling the Puzzle of Mental Health” - Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI – Sept. 16-18, registrations have been sent out, stating that you can send in registration without payment. Everything is on the website, we have speakers committed to time slots, all is coming together.

- ii. Annual Conference 2025 – Doherty Hotel, Clare, MI – Sept. 15-17, Danielle informed the board that contract was signed for this location.
- iii. Annual Conference 2026 – The Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI – Sept. 14-16, Danielle informed the board that a contract was signed for this location.

5) New Business

- a. Legislator of the year award recommendations were discussed.
 - i. Sen. Chang -It was hard to read the nomination sheet. She is chair of the Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety Committee. Summary is that she is good for Oakland County.
 - ii. Rep. O’Neal –Well respected in the Saginaw community. He attends meetings and is available for his people. Great Rep for Michigan. Review of his sponsored legislation showed many bills which have had MCSSA support.
 - iii. Rep. Young – As legislative committee chair for Families, Children and Seniors, she has supported bills that MCSSA supports and done a ton of work for these causes. Bob VanderZwaag then read the Criteria for Nominations for” Legislator of the Year”. The committee compared bills that each supported. Discussed the difference between` Sponsor and co-sponsor on bills. Motion to nominate O’Neal was made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Christy Hilgers, motion carried. It was asked to revisit the idea of more than one” Legislator of the Year”. Will put this on a future agenda.

- 6) Adjourn – Christy Hilgers made a motion to skip July’s meeting, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried. Christy Hilgers then made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 2:16 pm

The next meeting will be August 13, 2024, 1:00 pm via Zoom or in person.

Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 11, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Christy Hilgers – Houghton	Bob VanderZwaag – Ottawa
Laura Linebaugh–Ionia	Twanetta Ingram – MDHHS
Kitty Packard – Saginaw	Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm
Katie Zeiter – MDHHS	Sharon Campbell – Oakland
Danielle Sirianni – TFG	Nancy Peacock – TFG
Jenna Stanton – TFG	

- 1) Call to Order – Sharon Campbell, Chairperson @ 2:32 pm
- 2) Approval of Minutes - May 14, 2024, Kitty Packard made motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
- 3) Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda - addition to new business vote to skip the July committee meeting. Motion to approve agenda with the addition made by Laura Linebaugh, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
- 4) Updates & Information, Sharon Campbell, Committee Chair - No updates.
- 5) Updates & Information from External Meeting Participants
 - MI League for Public Policy – no updates.
 - E & T – no updates.

- Representatives from MDHHS - Katie Zeiter reported that the department submitted a request to change the timing of administrative hearings around child support requirement for food assistance. The Food & Nutrition study results are out, and part of the study showed a lack of benefit from continuing this program. By October 1, 2024, there will be rules changing on food assistance in relation to child support requirements. There will be a public hearing on Wednesday, June 12, on this topic. The young child report went out recently and DHHS is waiting for TANF to drop. Being at the end of the fiscal year, the department is back in a “crisis season” for assistance.
- 6) Legislative Bills Update, Danielle Sirianni, Mike Frederick - The bills that MCSSA has supported are passed through the Senate and are currently in the House. No budget negotiation dates have been set yet, but we should have some idea of a timeline by Friday, June 14.
 - 7) Pending Legislation Information, Recommendations and Updates
 - a. SB 818
This bill investigates maternal health and deaths from a racial disparity perspective in birth and in postpartum. Moved to support the bill made by Kitty Packard seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
 - b. SB 824
This bill is an amendment to the child protection law. It addresses mandatory reporting if a newborn infant is shown to be affected by any amount of alcohol-controlled substance, or metabolite of a controlled substance, as well as mandates DHHS creating a collaborative plan with the health care provider on how to care for an infant if substances are found in their systems. Motion to support the bill made by Laura Linebaugh, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
 - c. SB 828
This bill amends a child protection law. It requires there to be a plan in place at childcare centers for anaphylactic episodes and requiring that preventative measures must be in place.
Motion to support made by Sandy Cook, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried.
 - 8) Unfinished Business – none currently
 - 9) New Business –
 - a. - Sharon’s term on the Oakland County board ends on October 31, 2024. The vacancy will also be brought up at the board meeting.
 - b. Skip July meeting: The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2024, at 2:30pm. Kitty Packard MOVED to suspend the July meeting, Laura Linebaugh SUPPORTED. Motion carried.
 - 10) Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Laura Linebaugh, meeting adjourned @ 2:30 pm
Next Meeting: August 13, 2024, 2:30 pm via Zoom or in person
-

Advisory Committee Minutes

June 12, 2024 @ 8:00am

Attendees:

Naomi Deo – Presque Isle	Grenae Dudley – Oakland
Tiffany McDougale – MDHHS	Christy Hilgers – Houghton
Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm	Rachel Willis - MDHHS
Yvonne Hebert - Wexford	Dwayne Haywood – MDHHS
Danielle Sirianni – TFG	Nancy Peacock – TFG
Jenna Stanton - TFG	

1. Call to Order – Naomi Deo, Chairperson @ 8:02 am.

2. Approval of Minutes – May 15, 2024, motion to approve made by Grenae Dudley, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
3. Corrections/Additions/Approval of Agenda – Danielle Sirianni suggested the addition to new business that there must be a vote to skip the July committee meeting. Motion to approve agenda with one addition made by Grenae Dudley, seconded by Sandy Cook, motion carried.
4. MDHHS Updates from Dwayne Haywood - Tiffany McDougale provided an update on behalf of Dwayne, and Dwayne made some additions later. On the ESA side, DHHS is completing the public health emergency projects. They have rolled out the second phase of Family Independence Program (FIP) resources, most of which goes to support family resource specialists. Through this funding, families have been able to do things such as secure washer/dryers and obtain beds. Tiffany hopes that through this program, employees will uncover community specific resources to assist with permanent reunification cases and to prevent kids from being placed in care due to poverty. The pilot program is now operating in three counties, and the hope is that it will be implemented statewide. Dwayne added information about TANF dollars for FY25 and extending the length of time for funding from 48 months to 60 months. DHHS is actively working on a dashboard for MDHHS employees to track referrals and show the efficacy of FIP resource allocation
5. MDHHS Updates from Demetrius Starling - Ms. McDougale, on behalf of Demetrius. Last month was Foster Care Awareness Month, focusing on youth opportunity. The department focused on giving connections to youth who are aging out of the system to ensure their success. They are working to revamp “I CARE,” which is launching in Macomb County. It gives older youth access to colleges and trade schools. There is also an effort currently to increase the number of black/brown foster homes. In June, we celebrate PRIDE month and Juneteenth, and there will be some state-led activities to go along. DHHS is working to improve DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) efforts. Tiffany reported that at her Business Service Center (BSC), she is working to hire a DEI analyst.
6. District Reports:
 - District I – Christy Hilgers - The next district meeting will be in Marquette in August. It was rescheduled due to the April snowstorm.
 - District II – Naomi Deo - The next meeting will be on the 4th Thursday in July.
 - District III – Yvonne Hebert - The August meeting will focus on homelessness; 3 different speakers are scheduled.
 - District IV – Bob VanderZwaag: no updates.
 - District V – in search of district chair.
 - District VI – Sherrie Ross – unavailable, Grenae Dudley - the next district meeting is set for July 29.
7. Unfinished Business - none
8. New Business – Skip July meeting. Motion to adjourn the July meeting was made by Christy Hilgers, seconded by Grenae Dudley, motion carried.
9. Adjournment –motion to adjourn made by Christy Hilgers, seconded by Grenae Dudley, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 8:33 am.

The next meeting will be August 14, 2024 @ 8:00 am via Zoom or in person

Board of Directors Minutes

June 12, 2024, 9:30 am

Attendees:

Grenae Dudley – Oakland
 Christy Hilgers – Houghton
 Kitty Packard – Saginaw
 Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Yvonne Hebert – Wexford
 Naomi Deo – Presque Isle
 Sharon Campbell - Oakland
 Danielle Sirianni – TFG

- 1) Call to order – Grenae Dudley, Chairperson @ 9:31 am
- 2) Approval of Minutes – May 15, 2024, Motion to accept made by Naomi Deo, seconded by Kitty Packard, motion carried.
- 3) Corrections/Additions/Approval of the Agenda – motion to accept with addition to new business, skip July meeting, made by Yvonne Hebert, seconded by Sharon Campbell, motion carried.
- 4) Announcements/Correspondence – The Frederick Group has been hard at work on the annual conference and is much farther ahead than in past years. The conference schedule is almost full with speakers. 2025 and 2026 conference hotel contracts have been signed. We are monitoring all priority legislative bills and are working with Heritage Hall on planning for next year’s Legislative Conference. The Canva subscription has been very useful, so we thank the board for approving that. An update on the bank transfer: the MSU bank account is officially open, and we are working on transferring funds.
- 4) President’s Report – Grenae Dudley-White - with the news surrounding the Riverfront Conservancy in Detroit, Grenae requested that Mike put something together to show that what happened to Riverfront cannot happen to MCSSA. Grenae has asked for an audit committee meeting to occur to review financial policies that are in place. Danielle announced that MCSSA will need a new chair for this committee. Mike committed that The Frederick Group and the audit committee will have something for the board to act on in August.
- 5) Treasurer’s Report – Sandy Cook, report came out perfectly, motion to accept made by Naomi Deo, seconded by Christy Hilgers, motion carried.
- 6) MCMCFC Report/NACo Liaison – Renee Beniak not in attendance.
- 7) Advisory Committee Report – Naomi Deo reported that Dwayne Haywood and Tiffany McDougale updated us on behalf of the department. The Family Resource Program (FRP) is going very well. Foster care support programs are doing so much. The targets for the budget will come out as early as June 12, 2024.
- 8) Legislative Updates – Sharon Campbell
 - o Recommending support:
 - o SB 818 - This bill investigates maternal health from a racial disparity perspective in birth and in postpartum. Sharon Campbell MOVED to support the bill; Yvonne SUPPORTED. Motion PASSED.
 - o SB 824 - This bill is an amendment to the child protection law. It addresses mandatory reporting if a newborn infant is shown to be affected by any amount of alcohol, controlled substance, or metabolite of a controlled substance, as well as mandates DHHS creating a collaborative plan with the health care provider on how to care for an infant if substances are found in their systems. Sharon Cambell MOVED to support the bill; Kitty Packard SUPPORTED. Motion PASSED.
 - o SB 828 - This bill amends a child protection law. It requires there to be a plan in place at childcare centers for anaphylactic episodes and requiring that preventative measures must be in place. Motion to support made by Sharon Campbell, seconded by Yvonne Hebert, motion carried.
- New Chair: The Legislative Committee is seeking a new legislative committee chair. Grenae Dudley requested Sharon Campbell recommend a replacement.
- 9) Development and Education Committee – Bob VanderZwaag
 - a. 2024 Annual Conference – “Assembling the Puzzle of Mental Health” - Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI – Sept 16-18, the registration packet is out on the website. Everyone who attends is asked to participate in the president’s challenge, by donating items listed in the registration packet, which will be going to Safe Harbor. Please notify the MCSSA office of silent auction donations prior to the conference.

- b. Legislator of the Year recommendation, the committee recommends Rep. O’Neal of Saginaw. Motion to accept made by Christy Hilgers, seconded by Yvonne Hebert, motion carried.
- 10) Scholarship committee update – Christy Hilgers, materials were sent out, applications are due by July 12, 2024. The committee will review applications on July 23, 2024. As of June 12, 2024, no applications have been received. The board will receive a nomination for a recipient at the August meeting.
- 11) Committee/Liaison Reports –
- a. MAC – Bob VanderZwaag - unavailable
 - b. MCAH/ Michigan Health Policy Forum – Member Volunteer to attend? Still in need.
 - c. Michigan Overdose Data Action Committee – Grenae Dudley-White no updates.
- 12) District Reports from Advisory Committee Members –
- District I – Christy Hilgers -The next district meeting will be in Marquette in August. It was rescheduled due to the April snowstorm.
 - District II –Naomi Deo - The next meeting will be on the 4th Thursday in July.
 - District III – Yvonne Hebert -The August meeting will focus on homelessness, having 3 speakers.
 - District IV – Bob VanderZwaag -unavailable, no update per Danielle Sirianni.
 - District V – need a chair for district.
 - District VI – Sherrie Ross -unavailable, per Grenae Dudley next meeting will be July 29, 2024.
- 13) Unfinished Business - none
- 14) New Business - discussion on skipping July meeting. Motion made to suspend the July meeting was made by Kitty Packard, seconded by Sharon Campbell, motion carried.
- 15) Adjournment – motion to adjourn was made by Christy Hilgers, seconded by Sharon Campbell, motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 10:18 am.

Next meeting August 14, 2024, **9:30am** via Zoom or in person

AUCTION



The Scholarship Selection Committee is asking each county and/or individual member to bring at least one donated item for auction to the conference. Please DO NOT send it to the MCSSA office. The silent auction will be held throughout the entirety of the conference, within the meeting space. High bidders must pay for AND pick up their items after the close of bidding on Wednesday before leaving the conference.

Please notify the MCSSA office by September 6, 2024, by calling 517-371-5303, or emailing mcssa@mcssa.com, of the item(s) you and/or your county will be donating, so that a complete listing of all donations can be distributed at the conference. Please include a detailed description of your donation. In previous years, we have offered everything from a weekend at one of your county’s finest resorts or bed-and-breakfast locations to locally and personally handcrafted items, as well as gift certificates. All are welcomed and desired.



REGISTER TODAY!



MCSSA/MCSSCET

INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE:

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS MEETING



SEPTEMBER 16 - 18, 2024

**GREAT WOLF LODGE
TRAVERSE CITY, MI**



**ASSEMBLING THE PUZZLE
OF MENTAL HEALTH**



SAVE THE DATE

MCSSA'S 2024

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

MARCH 13, 2025

ONE-DAY ONLY
HERITAGE HALL

LOCATED IN THE
STATE CAPITAL

