



UP TO THE MINUTE

June 2026

Executive Director -
Danielle Sirianni
The Frederick Group
Contracted Association
Management

Michigan County Social Services Association
115 W Allegan, Ste. 200, Lansing, MI 48933
517.371.5303 | mcssa@mcssa.com | www.mcssa.com

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Manuel Cordova.
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2025-2026 Officers

Manuel Cordova - Emmet President

*Rebecca Pasko - Monroe, Vice-
President*

*Grenae Dudley – Oakland,
Immediate Past President*

*Christy Hilgers – Houghton
Secretary*

Mark Wolfe - Lenawee Treasurer

Zoe Lyons – Life Member

District I

Linda Kinnunen – Baraga
Jamie Lemay - Marquette

District II

Naomi Deo – Montmorency
Tammy Emig – Oscoda

District III

*Wayne Buskirk – Life Member Yvonne
Hebert - Wexford*

District IV

Bob Vanderzwaag – Life Member

District V

Sandy Cook – Life Member

District VI

Sherrie Ross – Oakland
Harry Wilson – Jackson



President's Message: June 2026

Dear MCSSA Members,

As we move into June and begin to enjoy the start of summer across Michigan, I want to thank each of you for the work you continue to do every day in support of the individuals, children, and families we serve. This time of year, brings increased activity throughout our communities and serves as a reminder of how important strong local human services systems are to the well-being of our residents.

Across the state, county offices continue to face growing demands while navigating staffing challenges, increasing caseload complexities, and ongoing policy changes. Despite these pressures, I continue to see dedication, professionalism, and compassion demonstrated by MCSSA members in every region of Michigan. Your work matters, and the impact you make reaches far beyond the walls of our offices.

There continue to be important legislative and budget discussions in Lansing regarding DHHS funding, Medicaid programs, behavioral health services, and the financial pressures facing counties across Michigan. At the same time, many communities continue to experience the effects of rising costs of living, increasing fuel prices, and inflation-related expenses that impact both county operations and the families we serve every day.

Large County Representatives

Bruce McCoy – Kent

Vacant – Macomb

Sherrie Ross – Oakland

Vacant – Wayne

Members at Large

Janice Covey – Mecosta

Twanetta Ingram – Ingham

These challenges place additional strain on transportation, staffing, and service delivery throughout our communities. As state-level decisions continue to develop, it remains critically important that county voices and front-line perspectives are included, so policymakers understand the real-world challenges affecting local agencies and residents alike.

As an organization, MCSSA remains committed to advocacy, education, and collaboration. We are also looking forward to our Annual Conference this September in the beautiful town of Frankenmuth. The conference is always a valuable opportunity for members from across the state to connect, learn, and share ideas that strengthen our organizations and communities.

I would also like to remind everyone that there is still time to contribute to the MCSSA Scholarship Fund. These donations help support students pursuing careers in social work, human services, and related fields, helping strengthen the future workforce serving communities across Michigan.

Continued participation and communication from our membership are what makes this organization strong. If your county has innovative programs, success stories, challenges, or ideas you would like to share, please reach out. We are always happy to highlight information and accomplishments that may benefit others across the state.

Finally, as summer schedules become busy, I encourage everyone to take time to recharge and spend time with family and loved ones. The work we do can be demanding, and taking care of ourselves is just as important as taking care of those we serve.

Thank you again for your continued commitment to Michigan's human services system and for everything you do for your counties and communities.

Sincerely,

Manuel Cordova

Manuel Cordova, SHRM-SCP

President, Michigan County Social Services Association (MCSSA)

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.



2026 **CHUCK HIGGINS / MEL HAGA
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

*Provided by:
Michigan County Social Services Association
through the Consortium for Education
and Training*

**APPLY NOW! DEADLINE:
JUNE 30, 2025**

For application & more information visit: www.mcssa.com
OR Email: mcssa@mcssa.com
Phone: 517.371.5303

MCSSA
Michigan County Social Services Association

PLEASE DONATE TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND!



MCSSA MICHIGAN'S 83 COUNTY
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
CHALLENGE

**MCSSA Scholarship
Challenge**

\$282 raised of \$20,000

Help MCSSA Scholarship Committee
meet our goal! Each May, college
students across the state apply for the
Chuck Higgins-Mel Ha

Donate

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?campaign_id=4AGRBA9JH2XU4

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2026

6/9 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
6/10 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

JULY 2026

7/7 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
7/8 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

AUGUST 2026

8/11 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
8/12 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am, Executive Committee @ 10 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am
8/14 – Last Day of the Hotel Room Block for the Annual Conference
8/24 – Tentative Listen & Learn TBA @12:00pm
8/28 – Last Day to Register for Annual Conference

SEPTEMBER 2026

9/14-9/16 – Annual Conference – The Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI

OCTOBER 2026

10/13 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
10/14 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am
10/26 – Tentative Listen & Learn TBA @12:00pm

NOVEMBER 2026

11/10 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
11/11 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am, Executive Committee @ 10 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

DECEMBER 2026

12/8 – Development & Education Committee @ 1:00 pm & Legislative Committee @ 2:30 pm
12/9 – Advisory Committee @ 8:00 am & Board of Directors @ 10:30 am

Legislative Tracking

Each month, we share a snapshot of MCSSA's legislative tracking highlighting bills that have seen recent action and on which MCSSA's Legislative Committee and Board of Directors have taken a formal position. This at-a-glance update is intended to keep members informed on where priority legislation currently stands.

The final two columns show the bill's current location in the legislative process and the date of the most recent activity. Members may request MCSSA's full bill analysis by emailing mcssa@mcssa.com. Complete bill language is available at www.legislature.mi.gov.

Bill #	Sponsor	Description	Date Presented	Stance Board of Directors Took	Status	Last Movement
HB 5739	DeBoyer	Probate: guardians and conservators; powers and duties; modify. Amends	4/8/2026	opposed	House Floor	5/21/2026
HB 5740	Schmaltz	Probate: guardians and conservators; requirements upon discovery of certain assets; provide for.	4/8/2026	opposed	House Floor	5/21/2026
SB 310	McMorrow	Children: child care; tri-share child care program; establish	6/11/2025	support	House Committee	5/20/2026
SB 311	Bayer	Children: child care; adjustments of reimbursements under the child development care program for inflation; require	6/11/2025	support	House Committee	5/20/2026
SB 312	McCann	Children: child care; review and appeal process for certain violations of child care organization rules; require the department to establish.	6/11/2025	support	House Committee	5/20/2026
SB 313	Anthony	Fire: other; requirements for certain child care organizations and procedures for certain investigations; modify and make other revisions to 1973 PA 116	6/11/2025	support	House Committee	5/20/2026
SB 891	Cherry	Law enforcement: reports; communications under the Amber alert act; modify.	4/8/2026	support	Senate Floor	5/20/2026
SB 892	McCann	Law enforcement: reports; Michigan Amber alert act; modify.	4/8/2026	support	Senate Floor	5/20/2026
HB 4696	Meerman	Children: guardians; definition of relative under the guardianship assistance act; modify.	8/13/2025	support	Senate Floor	5/19/2026
HB 4697	Young	Children: guardians; eligibility for guardianship assistance payments; modify.	8/13/2025	support	Senate Floor	5/19/2026
SB 480	Chang	Children: child care; definition of minor in the child care organizations act; modify.	8/13/2025	support	Senate Floor	5/19/2026
HB 5537	Cavitt	Crimes: controlled substances; production and sale of kratom; prohibit.	4/8/2026	support	Senate Committee	3/24/2026
HB 5368	Wortz	Tobacco: licenses; nicotine or tobacco product licensee; allow to sell nicotine or tobacco products at an unlicensed location under certain circumstances.	1/14/2026	support	House Committee	3/19/2026
HB 5369	Wortz	Tobacco: licenses; requirement that a person hold a license to sell a nicotine or tobacco product at retail; create certain temporary exemptions to	1/14/2026	support	House Committee	3/19/2026
HB 5370	Slagh	Tobacco: licenses; nicotine or tobacco products; require license to sell at retail	1/14/2026	support	House Committee	3/19/2026
HB 5371	Scott	Tobacco: other; reference to 1915 PA 31 in the age of majority act of 1971; revise	1/14/2026	support	House Committee	3/19/2026
HB 5372	Young	Tobacco: other; minors that purchase, possess, or use tobacco products, vapor products, or alternative nicotine products; sunset criminal penalties and civil sanctions for.	1/14/2026	support	House Committee	3/19/2026
HB 5684	Green	Crimes: penalties; threats or assaults against department of health and human services designated caregivers; prohibit, and provide penalties	4/8/2026	support	House Committee	3/5/2026
HB 5685	Edwards	Crimes: penalties; threats or assault against employee of family independence agency; expand.	4/8/2026	support	House Committee	3/5/2026



517. 371. 5303
MCSSA@MCSSA.COM
115 W Allegan Street, Suite 200
Lansing, MI 48933
WWW.MCSSA.COM

Development and Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Attendees:

Manuel Cordova – Emmet

Rebecca Pasko – Monroe

Kitty Packard – Saginaw

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm

Christy Hilgers - Houghton

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Nancy Peacock - TGF

Sean Kelly – TFG

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Manuel Cordova at 1:02 p.m.

Christy Hilgers moved to approve both May 12, 2026, Agenda and April 11, 2026, minutes as presented with second by Sandy Cook. Motion carried.

Ongoing Business:

Annual Conference Sept. 14-16, 2026, at the Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, Michigan.

- Topic: Vital Signs - Assessing the State of Medical Care.
- Potential Topics - Michigan Medicaid Changes, Medicare Advantage, Estate Recovery and Medical Debt, Medication Management and Safety, Recipient Rights, Guardianship/Conservative Guardianship, Loneliness and Social Isolation, Medication Management, Medical Nutrition.
- Potential Speakers - If we know of anyone who might be a good speaker on these topics or something else, contact Danielle Sirianni or Manuel Cordova.
- Presidents Challenge - Support the 1%-Veteran's Food Pantry of Frankenmuth Michigan.
- Silent Auction - Donated items should be new or in new condition.
- Costs will be increased for all except the Wednesday single day option, up to a maximum of \$30.00.
- Entertainment will be eliminated from the banquet. Other options to add some fun are welcome.
- Registration packets are being put together, rough form and will be sent out the 1st of June.

Annual conference 2027 - Kalamazoo Delta Hotel September 13-15, 2027: The contract language is being finalized.

Annual conference 2028 - Options being explored for this conference will prioritize a northern Michigan location.

- Marquette- will investigate a bit more information on this before touring.
- Muskegon – will keep this on the list.

- Traverse City - Park Place: Possibly Tour the former Northern Michigan Asylum, now The Village at Grand Traverse Commons: Condos, restaurants, shops, cafes, wineries/tasting rooms in the original Victorian buildings - plus a view of the steam tunnels and some rooms that have not been changed.
- Sault Ste Marie- Kewadin Casino: Possibly Tour the Soo Locks and historical museums.
- Boyne – will keep on the list.
- We talked about choosing a location that would allow excursions to places of local interest. This was of high interest to our committee. Adjustments are needed to the conference schedule.

Listen and Learn Dates and Topics

- May 18, 2026: Houda Fawaz: CSA Teaming Model - a new collaborative model to help improve permanency rate and stability for children.
- August 24, 2026: Our suggestions are needed, send info to MCSSA office.

New Business - None

Adjournment Kitty Packard moved to adjourn. Second by Sandy Cook. The meeting adjourned at 1:42p.m.

Next Meeting - June 9, 2026, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom or in person.

Legislative Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Attendees:

Manuel Cordova – Emmet

Christy Hilgers – Houghton

Kitty Packard - Saginaw

Danielle Sirianni – TFG

Sean Kelly – TFG

Laura Linebaugh – Ionia/Montcalm

Rebecca Pasko- Monroe

Pat Thompson – Macomb

Nancy Peacock - TFG

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Pat Thompson at 2:32 p.m.

Kitty Packard moved to approve April 7, 2026, minutes with the correction of *not* supporting HB 5739-5740 (typo corrected in minutes) and the May 12, 2026, agenda as presented with second by Manuel Cordova. Motion carried.

Updates and Information: Committee Co-Chair Pat Thompson - None, been quiet.

Updates and Information: Danielle Sirianni reported that the House and Senate have both released their budgets. If either house votes "no" on the other's proposal, it will go to conference committee. There will be a revenue consensus conference to see what funds are actually available. Danielle Sirianni expects both houses to be working on budget concerns for the next month. We may expect more bills to review in June.

Updates and Information from External Meeting Participants:

- MI League for Public Policy Representative Patrick Schaefer: No report - at a conference.

- Education and Training - No report - at a conference.
- Katie Zeiter, Representative (MDHHS) reported on the Economic Stability Administration via email:
 - Food and Nutrition Service approved a waiver extension for replacement benefits for 40 counties and one city due to the heavy rain, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred in April. Clients had until 5/5/26 to apply for replacement benefits.
 - Courtesy letters will no longer be sent to SNAP groups for any Acting on Changes policy. This policy became effective on 4/25/26.
 - Michigan has received the remaining 10% of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program federal funds, representing the allowable carryforward into the next fiscal year. Receipt of the remaining 10% provides Michigan with the required carryforward to begin FY27.
 - Updating MDHHS Policy item BAM 500 – Specifically warrant replacement process. Working with budget to simplify the warrant replacement process. We are removing unnecessary steps. We are also working to make sure that everything is aligned with the accounting and budget process.
 - Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) Request for Proposal (RFP) posted 5/1/2026 for FY27. Proposals to target energy assistance and self-sufficiency services with grantees through the Michigan Public Service Commission. Provides opportunity for additional community agencies to participate in being selected as a MEAP grantee.

Legislative Bills Update: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Announcement: May 8, 2026, at noon: Houda Fawaz: CSA Teaming Model - a new collaborative model to help improve permanency rate and stability for children.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Manuel Cordova with second by Rebecca Pasko. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 pm.

Next Meeting June 10, 2026, 2:30 pm via Zoom or in person

Advisory Committee Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Attendees:

Naomi Deo – Montmorency
 Manuel Cordova - Emmet
 Tim Click – MDHHS
 Rebecca Pasko - Monroe
 Mark Wolfe - Lenawee
 Grenae Dudley – Oakland

Sandy Cook – Ionia/Montcalm
 Christy Hilgers - Houghton
 Sherrie Ross - Oakland
 Danielle Sirianni – TFG
 Nancy Peacock - TFG
 Sean Kelly – TFG Intern

The meeting was called to order by chair Naomi Deo at 8:01 a.m.

Rebecca Pasko moved to approve April 8, 2026, minutes and May 13, 2026, agenda as presented with second by Sandy Cook. Motion carried.

Economic Stability Administration Updates

No report today. Erin Frisch is attending a conference.

Children's Services Administration Updates: Tim Click, Interim Chief Deputy Director for Children's Services gave the following report:

Bureau Updates:

- During the first weekend in May the Foster, Adoptive and Kinship (FAK) conference was held for over 300 attendees. Conference Award Recipients were recognized for going above and beyond, showing dedication, leadership, and a heart in ways that inspire us all who do this important work: Denny and Jennifer Dera, Foster Family Excellence Award; Marcus Culp, Kinship Family Excellence Award; Kaden & Emily Smith, Teresa Marvin Award; Jessica Hileman, Adoptive Family Excellence Award.
- Parental home placements are the highest confirmed perpetrator type for all Maltreatment in Care (MIC) investigations. Current pilot programs in Wayne County aim to strengthen oversight and support for children placed with parents, provide additional layers of safety, assessment, follow-through during critical periods. and address local risk patterns with targeted interventions. Pilot programs include:
 - Placement Collaboration Unit (PCU) 2.0: Supports staff addressing safety concerns for children placed with their parents, tools and guidance to identify risks earlier and respond quickly; enhances decision-making around in-home safety and service needs.
 - Intensive In-Home Specialists: Increased case management and ongoing support for families even after investigation is concluded, supports parental home placements, focuses on stabilizing families, reducing future risk, and strengthening long-term safety planning.
- Juvenile Justice
 - Residential operations and placement for MDHHS supervised youth: 45 youth are on the waitlist, and non-secure placements continue to account for most referrals with demand concentrated among male youth.
 - Interstate Coordination: 31 active transfers of supervision in Michigan, 11 outside of Michigan, and 4 active return cases being managed.
 - Re-entry Efforts: Juvenile Justice Bureau is partnering with the Medicaid Department to support implementation of the Consolidated Appropriations Act requirements for eligible justice-involved youth. This work includes coordinating on policy and operational guidance to support forthcoming Medicaid-covered screening, diagnostic, and targeted case management services 30 days prior to and up to 12 months after release.
- Office of Father and Paternal Engagement has:
 - Identified Father Friendly Principals.
 - Submitted a Second Chance grant focusing on incarcerated parents.
 - Hosted over 100 participants an OFPE Launch including two panels of fathers and a community activity working on participants' 3- and 6-month goals.
 - The final Men of Color Mentor/Mentee Event was on April 29th and included mock interviews for 16 men who received on-the-spot feedback.
 - Training Series with goals of strengthening father-centered practice:
 - May 20th: Life Course Approach - understanding how early experiences and systems shape outcomes for boys and men of color.

- June 17th: The Sacredness of Fatherhood - Reframing fatherhood as a meaningful and transformative role.
- July 23rd: Exploring the father wound - understanding father absence, trauma, and pathways for healing.

BSC 1

- Hosted a seminar on “Fragile Genius: Defending Mental Health in a Tech-Driven World,” presented by the owner of Protect Young Eyes.
- Attended the Child Welfare Supervisor Conference April 28 – 30.
- Wexford-Missaukee raised money by having a couple GAL’s volunteer to get pie thrown in their face by staff.

BSC 2:

- CSA Teaming Model by the third week of May and the final two counties will be completing their Tabletop Simulation training in June.
- Prioritized reduction of MIC events and increased permanency within 12 months through collaborative efforts and multi-tiered reviews ensuring appropriate and timely services for youth and families
- Since April of 2025 reduced the number of youths in CCI by 27.4%. and the average length of stay has decreased by approx. 80 days.
- BSC 2 concluded the 5598 Tribal Enrollment LPI workshop in April and is now in the implementation phase.
- Hosting a Maternal Mortality in Michigan training on May 15th. to examine infant mortality through the lens of equity- exploring how disparities develop, how bias systems influence outcomes for children in our state and what can be done for more equitable outcomes.
- Ingham County MDHHS has partnered with Advent House Ministries and Holy Cross Services of Lansing to ensure that unhoused individuals can obtain state IDs.

BSC 3: For Child Abuse Prevention Month in April

- Increased Community Awareness with a Child Abuse Awareness Flag- Library Display focusing on Prevention/Community Engagement, increased public visibility.

BSC 4:

- Livingston and Jackson Counties have launched into the Teaming model.
- Remaining counties will complete the Tabletops in May and June, with preparation for full launch July 2026.
- Currently only 4% of our youth in out of home care placed in CCI settings. 50% of our youth remain placed in the community within relative placements, with 25% in licensed unrelated foster homes.
- For the data pull on 4/26/2026, BSC 4 was at 93% compliance rate for motivational interviewing data entry, and Monroe County and Branch County were at 100%.
- Continues to lead the state with the least number of removals for Permanency in 12 reporting periods since April of 2022.
- Continues to show positive trends across all key metrics, including declines in MIC rate, new and total events, days in care, and population service. There was only 1 confirmed MIC incident in March 2026.

BSC 5:

- Cohort 1 - Macomb continues to operate as fully teaming, and Cohort 2 - Genesee, Oakland, and Wayne are actively partnering with OWDT to train their pods with the goal to become fully teamed.
- One Family One Agency

- Initial Relative Referrals with RPS inquire on all youth removed to include youth placed in parental homes, and regional POS intake creates the admin rate memo to ensure one family/one agency.
- Sib Split spreadsheet is monitored and tracked - follow-up emails are sent to agencies to bring cases to one agency and if an agency cannot accept at that time, a follow-up date is noted.
- Sib Split cases continue to decrease. In September of 2025 we were at 33% and as of April, we were at 26%.
- BSC 5 and Wayne County leadership are meeting with the City of Detroit to discuss resources and share information to work together to serve all families residing within the City of Detroit.

MCMCFC Report/NACo Liaison Updates:

Rebecca Pasko reported that proponents of PHIP are working on a new proposal aimed at keeping this issue out of court supervision. Community Mental Health is working to retain court supervision. Current status: Waiting for a Request for Proposal

Open Comments from Members –

- Sherrie Ross brought up efforts in California and Texas to criminalize homelessness as an effort to get these people off the street. She wondered if this was happening in Michigan. Danielle Sirianni reported that it is not happening at the state level. In fact, Michigan has been seeking measures to protect the rights of these citizens. There are however some communities that are exploring criminalization.
- Manuel Cordova reported on a meeting with Erin Frisch about emphasizing the design of our Advisory Committee to emphasize our role in advising the MDHHS. Currently the MDHHS primarily advises us. Christy Hilgers noted that the district 1 bylaws provide for a standing agenda item for Advisory Committee District Representative.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business - None

Adjournment

Sandy Cook moved to adjourn with second by Rebecca Pasko. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on June 9, 2026, at 8:00am via Zoom or in person.

Board of Directors Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Attendees:

Manuel Cordova – Emmet
 Grenae Dudley – Oakland
 Kitty Packard - Saginaw
 Rita Hale – Alger
 Mark Wolfe - Lenawee
 Naomi Deo - Montmorency

Pat Thompson - Macomb
 Christy Hilgers – Houghton
 Mike Frederick – TFG
 Danielle Sirianni – TFG
 Nancy Peacock – TFG
 Sean Kelly -TFG

The meeting was called to order by chair Manuel Cordova at 10:32 a.m.

Mark Wolfe moved to approve both April 8 minutes as presented and May 13, 2026, agenda with second by Rita Hale. Motion carried.

Announcements/What We Have Done

Danielle Sirianni of the Frederick Group reported:

- The 2026 annual conference registration packet is expected to be sent out the 1st of June.
- The final contract with Kalamazoo for the 2027 conference should receive soon for signatures.
- The scholarship is open and on the website. It includes a reminder about donating to our scholarship fund. Donations made online will get receipt from PayPal. Others will get a receipt from MCSSA sent by the Frederick Group. Grenae Dudley suggested exploring Zeffy which may give free fees.
- HB4696 and HB4697. We have supported these bills that expand the definition of "relative" for guardianship of children and eligibility for guardianship assistance payments. The bill is currently waiting for a vote on the Senate floor. If it passes it will go to the governor for her signature.

President's Report:

Manuel Cordova reported that he attended the launch of the Father and Paternal Engagement Office which focuses on paternal engagement in the family dynamic. He has been working with Erin Frisch on returning focus of the MCSSA Advisory Committee to prioritize our committee advising the department as opposed to just receiving information from them.

Treasurer's Report:

Mark Wolfe reported on the cash status, balance sheets and profit and loss reports for MCSSA and MCSSCET. MCSSA showed a loss for April due to fewer county dues payments coming in, which is normal for this time of year. 56 Counties have paid dues so far. MCSSA has a balance of over \$391,000. Mark noted that we may need to address how we plan to use our funds - some counties who see our cash balance may question why we need their dues. MCSSCET showed negative \$13,203.26 for April due to Legislative Conference expenses and refunds of conference fees due to weather preventing members from attending. MCSSCET has a balance of \$49,553.58.

Rita Hale moved to accept the Treasurer's report with second by Kitty Packard. Motion carried.

Advisory Committee Report: Naomi Deo reported on the Foster, Adoptive and Kinship conference and the well-deserved home, safety and concern awards given to caregivers. Most safety concerns for children are those with in-home placements, and more support is now in place for those working with these families. She reminded to join the May 18th Listen & Learn at noon for a presentation by Houda Fawaz on the Children's Service Administration's new Collaborative Teaming Model @12:00pm. Please, invite our fellow county board members to attend.

Scholarship Committee Report

Christy Hilgers thanked Manuel Cordova, Danielle Sirianni and the scholarship committee members for taking every opportunity to promote the fund-raising drive. Some counties are making donations and individuals are also donating. A message sent out to make sure that all state department staff, local MDHHS staff, county board and county commissioners know, we hope all will consider donating - donations of any amount are welcome.

Legislative Bills Update:

Pat Thompson reported he is monitoring bills that are moving but Legislators are concentrating on the budget. He Expects to loss revenue, thus cutting into the budget. Pat Thompson talked with a state senator who appreciated the information he got from a Legislative Conference meeting with his constituents. He requested a monthly update from MCSSA.

Committee Reports

Development and Education:

- Annual Conference 2026 – The Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI – Sept. 14-16.
 - The tentative registration packet was reviewed. It will be sent out 1st of June.
 - All are encouraged to provide information about potential speakers as soon as possible.
 - Grenae Dudley will do a Narcan Training which requires 90 minutes.
 - Elder fraud protection was mentioned.
 - A high school group put together a video on teen suicide prevention that was suggested as a possibility for the conference or as a future "Listen and Learn".
 - The President's Challenge is to support the "1% Veteran Food Pantry" in Frankenmuth.
 - Silent Auction - Only new or like-new items will be accepted.

- Annual Conference in 2027: Final Contract will be signed once MCSSA office receives from Kalamazoo Delta Hotel and Conference Center.

- Annual Conference - Current Options for 2028:
 - Marquette Holiday Inn – Rita Hale has contacted and it can accommodate us, Danielle Sirianni to tour.
 - Muskegon
 - Lansing
 - Traverse City - Park Place - Tours of Village at Grand Traverse Commons, former Northern Michigan Asylum.
 - Sault Ste Marie- Kewadin Casino: Possibly Tour the Soo Locks and historical museums.
 - Boyne
 - Cadillac
 - We talked about locations that would allow excursions to places of local interest. The Development and Education Committee likes this approach. Adjustments would be needed to the conference schedule.

- Listen & Learn
 - May 18, 2026: Houda Fawaz: CSA Teaming Model - a new collaborative model to help improve permanency rate and stability for children.
 - August 24, 2026: All suggestions are welcome.

- **Liaison Reports**
 - MAC – Manuel Cordova had no report. He wonders if this organization fits in with MCSSA. Consider participating in the Michigan County Medical Care Facilities Council.
 - MCAH/ Michigan Health Policy Forum – Pat Thompson may be interested in volunteering to attend.
 - Michigan Overdose Data Action Committee: Grenae Dudley-White reported that the University of Michigan will be leading this effort. There is a robust on-line system giving information on what's happening with opioids and substances like Kratom, Hallucinogens, Meth and Cocaine.
 - CMHA (Community Mental Health Association): See 5-13-26 Advisory Committee Minutes.

District Reports.

- District I – making progress on securing banking account separate from MCSSA, District 1 Bylaws were adopted at the 5-8-26 meeting based on those approved in 2021 by the executive committee. Our May 8th program featured speakers from the Marquette and Munising Women's Centers. Next meeting: Friday August 14th at the Hudson Grill in Marquette. State Senator Ed McBroom will be invited to speak.
- District II – Naomi Deo - Two weeks ago their meeting featured Family Impact Teams- a one-step approach for MDHHS specialists to provide a family with all the services they need. Immediate help can be provided to keep children safe and families together. Next Meeting July 23rd at the Gaylord MDHHS office.
- District III – hasn't had a meeting in quite some time. They are looking for ideas to resume meetings.
- District IV – Seeking a volunteer to serve as district chair.
- District V – Will work to get a chair to get a meeting scheduled.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business – None

Adjournment

Rita Hale moved to adjourn the meeting with second by Grenae Dudley. The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.

The next meeting will be held on June 10, 2026, at 10:30 am via Zoom or in person.



SILENT AUCTION

The Scholarship Selection Committee asks each county and/or individual member to donate at least one item for the auction. Please bring donated items directly to the conference and do not send them to the MCSSA office. **To help ensure a positive experience for all participants, we kindly request that all donated items be in mint or near-mint condition — new, or clean, well-maintained, and gently used.**

Please notify the MCSSA office of your donation(s) by September 5, 2026, by calling 517-371-5303 or emailing. Be sure to include a detailed description of the item(s). Past donations have included resort or bed-and-breakfast stays, handcrafted items, gift certificates, and more — all contributions are appreciated.



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2026 ANNUAL MCSSA *Conference*



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