



President's Letter

Michigan Family Support Council

25th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Happy Birthday greetings to each of you! It's our **25th Anniversary!** Have I been in this business that long? Well... that... plus several more. We have come a long way in our history serving the child support families within Michigan, some outside of Michigan and even some outside of the United States. Having been a part of this organization at its birth and seeing where we have come to date, Michigan Family Support Council, along with its **four Regional Councils**, have established a proud record of accomplishments in the training of child support professionals across our entire State. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this year's 25th conference.

MFSC has seen our workshops grow from 4 or 5 sessions in our first years to over **35 workshops** this year. Our conference has gone from one-day sessions to a multiple day format. We have seen our conference grow with more vendors coming on board as sponsors helping to enable us to put on a conference with top-level keynote speakers and motivational speakers in addition to our breakout workshops. We have seen our attendance grow from a handful to **over 400 attendees** in our history. Over the years, our workloads continued to grow. The demand for improved job skills and training continued to be evident. Technology improved and new tools were provided to us, some bringing additional challenges not present before, but much of it helping us to work more efficiently and smarter. Regulations changed over the years, too. Federal dollars were largely used in funding child support and with it came new and increased rules, regulations and new legislation.

Three years ago we launched our own public website (www.mifsc.org). I invite you to take a look if you have not done so already. The Board has attempted to also provide you with some activities for after hours recreation and entertainment. This being our 25th year celebration, we have brought in a professional production company to put on for you a top-notch **Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Show**. Half of you will attend each night and the other half will eat in the dining room as normally done. Dinner will be served using tickets this year due to this change. Other fun activities include the Caricaturist, who is most willing to draw your portrait and we know pictures speak a thousand words. The **Silent Auction** proceeds will go to the Whaley Children's Center charity this year and also toward a scholarship fund for our attendees. This year we were able to award **44 scholarships**. Soothing your nerves can be easily done in the knitting classes or dancing until your toes are tired and numb.

I most want to take this opportunity, to say a heartfelt thank you for all you do for the child support program in Michigan. All the best opportunities can be provided along with the best technology and training, but without you, it doesn't happen. Congratulations on your successes over the years and keep up the good work you do!

To our vendors, I say a special thank you for without your dedication to the child support work you do and your sponsorships, this conference would not be the success it is and has been for the last 25 years. We appreciate your support!

To all the Board members who have spent hours of time, in meeting after meeting planning for this conference and for all the support you have given me, thank you, thank you.

Lastly, let me encourage each of you to please stop by and support the Silent Auction. This is a pet project of mine that benefits so many children, in need, who find themselves in painful situations through no fault of their own, in many cases. It also benefits each of us in that it provides an opportunity to earn a scholarship to pay a large portion of the conference costs.

Have a wonderful conference.

Andy Crisenbery
President, Michigan Family Support Council