



SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN FAMILY SUPPORT COUNCIL Annual Report



Dear Child Support Colleagues:

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Southeastern Michigan Family Support Council, welcome to the annual Fall Conference. Once again, we have the wonderful scenery of the Boyne Highlands Resort to remind us that fall is just around the corner. We hope you enjoy the relaxed surroundings and the wonderful agenda we have for you this week.

As always, the Board appreciates you taking the time from your full schedules to take advantage of the information and tools our speakers will present to you over the next few days. We recognize the sacrifice it takes to take advantage of training and workshops in light of your heavy work loads and the state of the economy. We appreciate your support in the Council's efforts to provide you with the tools and training that continue to help you help the children and families throughout the state and the country. Just as we recognize your hard-work and all you do, please take a little time out of your schedule to thank your agency representatives, whenever possible. Your representatives are Daniel McLean & Lona Julian, Macomb FOC; Stephanie Gurganus & Josh Walker, Monroe FOC; Tiffany Clark & Jackie McGhee, Monroe PA., Jeanette Leshan & Rhonda Mohlman, Oakland FOC; Sandra Erickson, St. Clair FOC; Anjela Moore & Lisa Robinson, Wayne FOC; Doris Ryans, Wayne PA; Cora Poldo, Tiffany Heard, Brenda Merriweather, Theresa Moehlig, Marcie Prather, and Tamika Young, OCS;

As budget cuts continue and our workforce shrinks, MFSC continues to ensure that it provides you with as many training opportunities as possible. The SE Board presented our yearly spring conference at MacRay Banquet Center on May 7, 2010. We enjoyed a beautiful spring day with a gorgeous scenic view of the harbor as we enjoyed our presenters. Cynthia Sherburn, 3rd Judicial Circuit of Michigan Attorney presented Legislative Updates; Paula Fulton and Nancy Ruonnavarra from MiCSES presented Business Objects; Pam Sala from Oakland FOC presented Member Merge; Michael Adrian, OCS presented Getting with the (IV-D) Program, OCS Moves from ATs to Manual; Mike Arvizu, Brent Burton & Ronald Kullen presented 5.4 Release Topics re: Medical, EFT, & SORD; and Marilyn Stephen provided an overview of the Child Support Program and some of the successes we have experienced over the year.

Your state and regional board members deal with the monthly challenge of whether they are able to attend the monthly meetings or ask to be excused because their local office is short staffed, they do not receive approval or they just can not get away because of their work load. The State Board as well as your SE region continues to research alternative ways to conduct our monthly meetings in order to provide all representatives the ability to attend in person, via the web or by conference call. We hope that providing these alternative meeting options gives our board members more opportunities to attend monthly meetings and still be available in their local offices. We also hope these options provide counties that were unable to participate in the past, the opportunity to become active again. The SE region held its June board meeting via conference call. Although the board will need to meet in person, we now have another option for members to attend. So, if your county could not join us at our monthly meetings in the past, these options may allow you the opportunity to do so now. We would love your input and participation.

As you may know, an important goal and continued mission of the Michigan Family Support Council is to share the wealth of knowledge and resources we have among our co-workers and partner agencies. This Council includes employees from the Office of Child Support, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and the Office of the Friend of the Court in Lenawee, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Wayne Counties. To access these resources and information, please visit the Michigan Family Support Council website <http://www.mifsc.org>. You may also access this website via the link on MI-Support. The site provides information on the state and regional councils, resource information, and a feedback area. The Council will ensure the site is updated on a regular basis. Please feel free to contact us with any resource information and ideas you wish to share with the statewide membership or have posted on the website. We welcome your participation at the state and/or regional levels.

Sincerely,

Lisa Robinson

President, Southeastern MFSC