



*Monica Morris-Moats
Michigan Family Support Council*

President's Letter

Michigan Family Support Council

33rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The crispness is in the air! The beautiful colors are on display on all the trees. Smells of pumpkin spice and cinnamon waft from the candles. Fall is here and with it, the 33rd Annual MFSC Fall Conference at the beautiful Boyne Highlands Resort.

As I reflect on my year as President, I have several wonderful and defining moments. Perhaps none more amazing than the honor and humbleness I feel being elected to represent this phenomenal organization and all those who have gone before me and those who are still to serve and do amazing things! The Michigan Family Support Council has helped me grow as a person and, I hope, as a colleague. I am grateful for everyone I have become acquainted with through this organization. And I have learned something valuable from everyone I have met. I don't think anyone who works in this field can be told enough, or hear enough, how wonderful you all are and THANK YOU for the amazing work you do each and every day.

Calendar year 2014/2015 saw us, as always, struggling with new policies, statutes and procedures no matter what office we were in. Case Closure severely tested the patience and stamina of those who oversaw it and those of us who were directly affected by it. Looking forward however, it promises to make a lot of things way easier and appears headed in a very positive direction. For those of you who were affected by the Corrective Action Plan, and that was a whole lot of us, great work and don't be discouraged. The reports have shown there are improvements and they look like they should continue in the future. CAR quality has improved significantly and those in the know assure me they are striving to implement training and policy to continue that positive path. And for some of us the transition will begin from State managed computers to in-county managed. This results in shiny new equipment and a little more personal IT management.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the departure of a truly awesome member of the MFSC family. This year Al Crocker decided that he would retire and enjoy some quality time pursuing other interests. For those of you who know Al, or have ever met him, you know what a tireless member of the child support system he was. I "grew up" with Al and don't remember a time in my 27 years in child support that I didn't see him running around doing something at a conference or making himself available as a fount of information for new workers. 2015 also saw the retirement of Terry Novakoski from Kent County FOC. Terry as well was a constant figure in the child support field for as long as I can remember. We wish both gentlemen well in their retirement pursuits.

I look forward to a conference chock full of information and insight with outstanding presenters. I would like to thank the Board for all the hard work they do throughout the year and the wonderful support I have received during my tenure as President. Thank you to Joy Anderson, Patty Buskirk, Marcia Coughlin, Al Crocker (wasting away in Margaritaville but certainly NOT forgotten!!), Nadine Gauldin, Amy Gilmore, Jennifer Granzow, Lona Julien, Beth Naftaly-Kirshner, Jeff Koteles, Jeanette Miracle-Leshan, Lisa Robinson, Pam Sala, Teresa Schneider, Sheila Waldrop, and Tamekia Young. Thank you to Jennifer A and Tim C for all that you do. The Board continues to amaze me with their dedication to the organization and the wonderful ideas they bring to each meeting. Have a great time at Boyne!!

Sincerely,

Monica Morris-Moats, President
Michigan Family Support Council