



Northern Region

Michigan Family Support Council

29th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Northern Region in 2011 experienced another year of continued professional growth, offering what has become our annual training session in Traverse City. This year's session registrants exceeded fifty for the third straight year, coming in at 52 attendees.

The Spring Conference was held on May 17, 2011 at the Hagerty Center. The Hagerty Center is an outstanding facility, voted #1 in the State outside of metro Detroit. The program started with a presentation by Marilyn Stephen, Director of the Office of Child Support, leading a discussion on Central Office issues and a MiCSES update. Next on the agenda, was a session by Nancy Ruonavaara and Claudio Martello on the Impact of MiCSES 7.0. After that, Judy Golden presented "To Co-op or Not to Co-op, That is the Question". This year we were treated to an outstanding lunch buffet featuring beef tenderloin tips and whitefish almandine. After lunch, the program continued with a presentation by Paula Fulton titled "Everything You Wanted to Know About License Suspension and Tax Intercept, But Were Afraid to Ask". Finally the program concluded with a presentation on "Workplace Security and Self-Defense" by Preston Taylor of the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Dept. This year's presentations were again, as always, excellent and very well received.

The Northern Board this year took another hit with the retirement of our F.O.C. rep Ward Staffeld. Amy Gilmore continues as our O.C.S. rep. however, now our F.O.C. rep position is vacant as well as our P.A. rep position, which continues to remain unfilled. Therefore, anyone with an interest and the ability to attend our State Board meetings the second Tuesday of each month from 10am until approximately noon is encouraged to contact me to discuss this matter further.

Here's hoping this years State conference is enjoyable as well as productive for you.

Respectfully,

Al Crocker
President, Northern Region
Michigan Family Support Council