



Southwest Region

Michigan Family Support Council

24th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Southwest Michigan Family Support Council (SWMFSC) is comprised of child support workers from 15 counties in southwest Michigan. Counties in this section of the state range from as far north as Muskegon County and as far south as Hillsdale County.

The SWMFSC meets each month to discuss important child support issues affecting the State of Michigan and our own local counties. We attempt to problem solve, and share methodology and best practices to improve our daily performance in the child support field.

The SWFSC also plans two regional conferences each year and presents them to the members at a minimal cost. This year, the winter conference was held at the Van Buren County ISD in Van Buren County. Thankfully, there were no major snowstorms or three-mile back ups on I-94! This set the tone for a good beginning to this year's winter conference. Marilyn Stephen spoke at the winter conference. She was so engaging and informative, that we also invited her back as a highlight for the Spring Conference. The winter conference ended with presenter handing-out money to attendees (wow!), which was another good reason to attend.

The spring conference was held at the Gilmore Car Museum on May 18, and over 90 people attended. The speaker line up was fantastic and included Jennifer Granzow, Marilyn Stephen, Nigel Crum, Lauri Assadi and Mark Jasonowiz. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate and it was cold in the "Barn", and the speaker system was poor. I was also told that I was the first president to officially lose money out of our budget for a conference (oops!). Nonetheless, the speakers and location were fantastic, and the food was great, barring limited diet coke again. It was a wonderful conference.

For those interested, the Southwest Regional board elections will take place at the November meeting.

In conclusion, I want to thank all of the SWMFSC board members. Your true dedication to improving workers' daily job functions in the arena of child support is outstanding. You all made my job exceptionally easy last year.

Matt Schmid
President of the Southwest Region