



ONE MISSION, MANY VOICES

Uniting the Michigan
Home Visiting Community

2026 MICHIGAN HOME VISITING CONFERENCE



Model Day | 1-5 p.m. | Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Early Head Start — *Pamela Waddell*

Tower C



Family Spirit — *Maddy Lamma*

Michigan EF



Healthy Families America & Parents As Teachers — *CQFS Team*

Tower AB

Healthy Start — *Peggy Vander Meulen*

Council



Maternal Infant Health Program — *Meagan Chuey; Alissa Borowiak*

Michigan AB

Nurse Family Partnership — *Sarah Bryant*

Mackinac Ballroom



Parent Learning Community — *Autumn Williams*

Peninsula A

Local Leadership Group — *Evi Lindquist*

Michigan G

Peer Navigator — *Annie Heit*

Directors



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CONTINUING EDUCATION: Nursing Social Work

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Agenda

Day 1 | Thursday, August 13, 2026

7:00–8:00 a.m.	Walk With Tiffany – <i>Tiffany Kostelec</i>	Main Entrance
8:00–9:00 a.m.	Check-In and Breakfast	Governors' Prefunction
9:00–9:10 a.m.	Welcome & New and Noteworthy Updates – <i>Tiffany Kostelec</i>	Governors' Hall
9:10–9:15 a.m.	Poetry Out Loud: Knock-Knock – <i>Performed by: Eliza Aldridge, 2026 Michigan Poetry Out Loud Champion</i>	Governors' Hall
9:15–10:30 a.m.	Rooted Together: Transforming Home Visiting Through Purpose, Partnership, and Possibility – <i>Dr. Ghia Kelly, DTL, MSW</i>	Governors' Hall  
10:30–10:45 a.m.	Break / Visit Exhibitors	
10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SERIES (100)	
101	From Conception to Kindergarten: A Unified Continuum of Care for Preventing Interpersonal Violence – <i>Jessica Edel, Ph.D.; Amanda Barratt</i>	Council  
102	Daddy as a Doula: Engaging Fathers as Birth and Postpartum Support Partners in Home Visiting Programs – <i>Porsha Black; Shonte Terhune-Smith</i>	Tower A  
103	Supporting Caregivers with Cognitive Impairments – <i>Janet Evans; Aimee LaFear; Dana Spear</i>	Mackinac  
104	Peer Learning for Home Visiting with Newcomer Families – <i>Stormie Drake; Eli Wickline</i>	Tower B  
105	Regulate, Relate, Reason: Strategies to Support Families Impacted by Trauma – <i>Sarah Birch; Kelly Uhlmann</i>	Governors' E  
106	Empowering Families Early: Michigan's Coordinated Approach through Early On, Build Up, and Help Me Grow – <i>Jennifer Koenigskecht; Kelly Hurshe</i>	Tower C  
107	Informal Support: From Surviving to Thriving – <i>Sammi Alvesteffer; Ashley B. Mastin-Chapman; Whitney Phillips</i> <i>*Chrystal Seguara-Perez and Kinea Woods-Bey supported the development of this presentation.</i>	Peninsula 

Continued...

Agenda (cont.)

Day 1 | Thursday, August 13, 2026

12:00–1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Governors' Hall
12:15–12:30 p.m.	Budget Update: Where We Are and What's Ahead — Amy Zaagman	Governors' Hall
1:00–2:15 p.m.	CONCURRENT SERIES (200)	
201	Perinatal Peer Navigator Program Panel: Learning from the Voices of Lived Experience — Annie Heit; Ricki Harmon; Breana Frayer; Madeline Vegh; Lauren Lee; Sam Shedd, BA, CADC-DP, CCAR, CHW	Council  
202	From Crisis to Capacity: Rebuilding Trust in Home Visiting When Support Feels Like Surveillance — Steph Thornton	Peninsula  
203	Parent Child Interaction Observation — Mary Mackrain	Tower A  
204	Screen Time Implication for Families and Children — Rich VanTol; Maggie Wisniewski, MBA	Governors' E  
205	Confidence Counts: Giving Home Visitors the Tools to Support Breastfeeding Families — Maggie Holland; Maija Ouellette	Mackinac 
206	Relational Leadership: Creating Safety for an Effective Workplace — Andrea Penick	Tower B  
207	Noticing the Inside Voice: Strengthening Reflective Practice Through Experience — June Hall	Tower C  
2:15–2:30 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibitors	
2:30–3:45 p.m.	CONCURRENT SERIES (300)	
301	Let's Talk About Sex, Baby! — Carrie Stelma; Susanna Sefton	Mackinac  
302	Empowered ME: Parent Leadership, Advocacy & Early Connections — DeSiree White	Tower A  
303	Engaging Support People to Build a Stronger Home Visit — Britney Wright; Kortni Garcia	Tower B 
304	Walking Alongside Parents Using a Culturally Responsive Lens: Meet Us Where We Are — Brandy Hayes; Brittany Franks; Naketta Wallace *Teresa Valdez supported the development of this presentation.	Peninsula 
305	Safe at Every Doorstep: Building a Culture of Safety in Home Visiting — Karen Lezan	Tower C  
306	Using Reflective Practices and Trauma-Informed Approaches in Home Visiting — Kim Harris; Alyce Hernandez	Governors' E  
3:45–4:00 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibitors	
4:00–5:00 p.m.	R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - You've Earned It! — Janet Nickell Horras, BA, CCAP	Governors' Hall 



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Day 2 | Friday, August 14, 2026

7:00–8:00 a.m.	Yoga — <i>Grace Weatherbee</i>	Governors' E
8:00–9:00 a.m.	Check-In and Breakfast	Governors' Prefunction
9:00–9:05 a.m.	Mindfulness Meditation — <i>June Hall</i>	Governors' Hall
9:05–10:15 a.m.	Walking Together: Stories of Partnership, Trust and Growth — <i>Becky Doucette; Taniah Ingram; Carrie Stelma; Shpresa Koxhaj; Amethyst Abrams; DeSiree White</i>	Governors' Hall
10:15–10:45 a.m.	Break / Hotel Check-Out	
10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SERIES (400)	
401	Improving Postpartum Well-being in Kent County, Michigan — <i>Robin VanDerMoere; Madelyn Olson</i>	Council ♥
402	Fathers Count: Facilitating & Strengthening Father Engagement — <i>Julie Kozan; Deveon Newby</i>	Peninsula ♥ 🧩
403	Connected from the Start: Strengthening Early Relationships for Lifelong Well-Being — <i>Mary Mackrain</i>	Tower A ♥ 🧩
404	From Stigma to Strength: Supporting Moms, Babies, and Families in Recovery — <i>Ricki Harmon; Dawn Vernon; Catherine Sleder; Madeline Vegh</i>	Governors' E ♥ 🧩
405	Family Panel: Supporting Families Impacted by Substance Use and/or Child Welfare Involvement — <i>Kate Rood</i>	Mackinac ♥
406	Home Sweet Safe Home: Protecting Providers in the Field — <i>Claire Titcombe; Heather Richards</i>	Tower B ♥ 🧩
407	Finding the Right Voices: Hire Unicorns, Not Chaos Gremlins — <i>Karen Lezan; Patrick Conley; Maureen Schmidt</i>	Tower C
12:00–1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Governors' Hall
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Interconnected and Interdependent: Uplifting the Power of Home Visiting and Its Impact on Michigan Communities Through Storytelling, Spoken Word, and Advocacy — <i>Lucy Recio, MPA</i>	Governors' Hall 🧩
2:15–2:30 p.m.	Wrap Up/Conclude	Governors' Hall

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