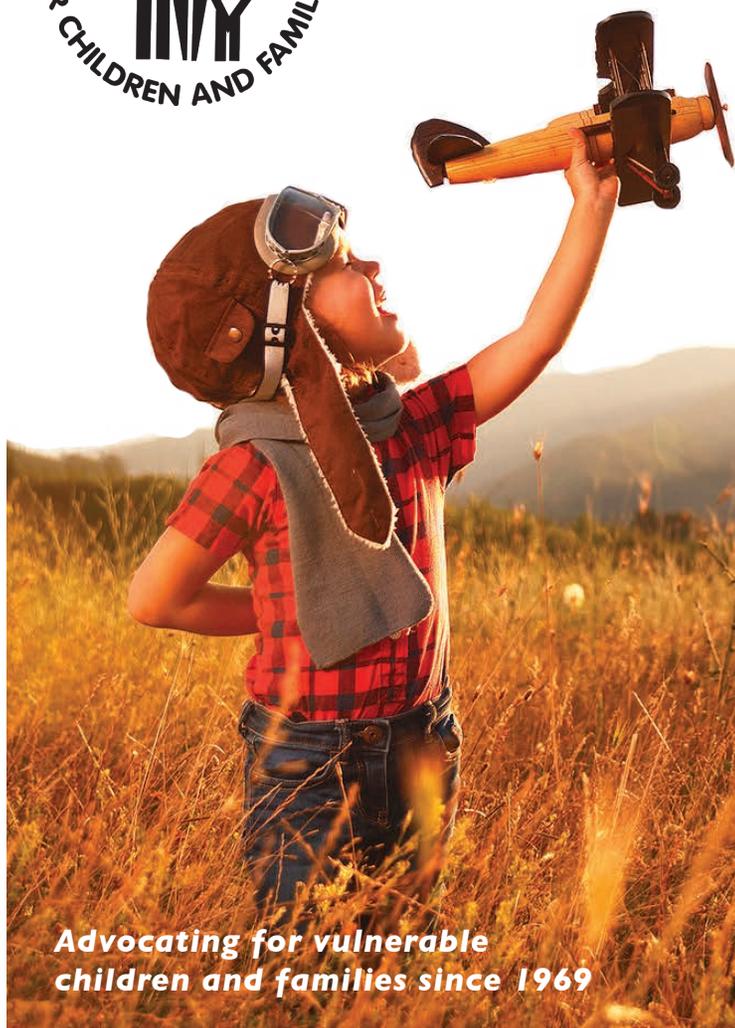


Annual Report to the Membership

September 2018



**Advocating for vulnerable
children and families since 1969**

FULL MEMBERS

- ACTS II Ministry for Teens
- Adoption Option, Inc.
- Bethany Christian Services
- D.A. Blodgett-St. John's
- Catholic Charities of Jackson, Lenawee & Hillsdale Counties
- Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties
- Catholic Charities West Michigan
- Catholic Social Services of the Upper Peninsula
- Child & Family Charities
- Child & Family Services of Northeast Michigan
- Child & Family Services of Northwestern Michigan
- Child & Family Services of the Upper Peninsula
- The Children's Center
- Christ Child House
- Community Social Services of Wayne County
- Covenant House Michigan
- Eagle Village
- Family & Children Services
- Family & Community Services
- Family Outreach Center
- Family Service & Children's Aid
- Federation of Youth Services
- Forever Families
- Fostering Solutions
- Guiding Harbor
- Hands Across the Water
- Highfields, Inc.
- Holy Cross Services
- Homes for Black Children
- Hope Network Behavioral Health Services
- Judson Center
- Lakeside for Children
- Livingston County Catholic Charities
- Methodist Children's Home Society
- The New Foster Care
- New Light Child & Family Institute
- Ruth Ellis Center
- St. Louis Center
- St. Vincent Catholic Charities
- Samaritas
- Spaulding for Children
- Starr Commonwealth
- StarrVista
- Sunny Crest Youth Ranch
- Teaching Family Homes of Upper Michigan
- U.P. KIDS
- Upper Peninsula Family Solutions
- Vista Maria
- Wedgwood Christian Services
- Wellspring Lutheran Services
- West Michigan Partnership for Children
- Whaley Children's Center
- Youth Guidance Foster Care & Adoption

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- Fostering Forward Michigan
- Michigan CASA, Inc.
- Michigan Home-Based Family Services Association
- Michigan Juvenile Detention Association
- Michigan Network for Youth & Families
- Michigan State University School of Social Work

The Federation achieves results through engagement, advocacy & action



The Michigan Federation for Children and Families works tirelessly on behalf of children and families and the private, nonprofit agencies serving Michigan's most vulnerable citizens. The reasons why are clear in our mission, but the ways in which we influence policy, programs, funding and services through our action are diverse and powerful. **Member involvement is vital to our progress and achievements.**

The Federation is at the forefront of advocacy efforts and action as child welfare reform continues in Michigan. Our input and feedback to leadership of the Snyder Administration, members of the Michigan Legislature, and officials within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has been sought out, respected and acted upon.

Highlights of the membership's past year's efforts include:

Engagement

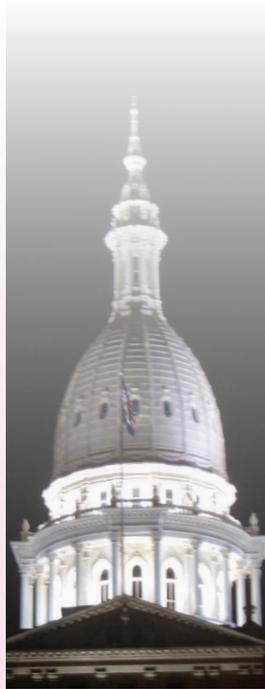
- Hosted meetings of and worked collaboratively with the Michigan Child Welfare Partnership Council to advocate for changes to the child welfare system that focus on outcomes for kids, promoting the performance-based funding pilot in Kent County that allows private agencies the flexibility to innovate in their service delivery, and ensuring that the views of Federation members were included in the process.
- Participated in the West Michigan Partnership for Children's meetings, including Director's Steering Committee meetings with the MDHHS executive leadership and advisory committee meetings.
- Participated in the "MDHHS Systems Transformation" discussions with a strong collaboration of MDHHS, private providers, behavioral/mental health clinicians and national experts to develop a system of care for children that is focused on high quality, trauma-informed, therapeutic intervention in the least restrictive environment, while maintaining strong family connections and progress toward permanency.
- Hosted representatives from ten Michigan universities across the state, creating an opportunity for schools of social work to meet, network, and learn strategies for connecting social work education and field placements to child welfare agencies, information, and current reform strategies.

- In partnership with MDHHS, convened a meeting of treatment foster care service providers to discuss expanding capacity and utilization of the treatment foster care program throughout the state, as well as identifying barriers to achieving this goal and exploring innovative ideas.

Advocacy

- Facilitated strong advocacy and a collective voice among member agencies in working with members of the Michigan Legislature and with MDHHS, resulting in retention of the PAFC training reimbursement at \$6,000 per caseworker completing state mandated new caseworker training for FY18, retroactive to 10/1/17.
- Successfully advocated with the Michigan Legislature to increase the adoption contract rates, which had been stagnant since 2011. Advocacy efforts yielded a 10% rate increase, infusing \$1.8 million into this area of service. At the request of Federation membership, the legislature also provided \$50,000 in funding to support an actuarial cost study of the rates paid to private child placing agencies for adoption incentive payments.
- Worked collaboratively with MDHHS to refine the residential foster care contracts in order to ensure agencies are equipped to deliver excellence in services to kids and families.

- Drafted budget boilerplate language that was ultimately signed into law, supporting a change in the calculation of adoption worker caseloads for private child placing agencies, and advocating for a workgroup to examine unpaid cases to private agencies.
- New budget boilerplate language was ultimately signed into law, stating the MDHHS may pay providers of foster care services a per diem daily administrative rate for every case on a caseworker's caseload for the duration of a case from referral acceptance to the discharge of wardship.
- New budget boilerplate language directs the formation of a workgroup to compensate private agencies for all case management and services provided to children for which an administrative rate payment is currently not made. The Michigan Federation for Children and Families and representatives from several other private agencies are named in the required parties.
- Met with State Budget Office officials, leading to new funding streams being developed, adding \$5.5 million for administrative rate payments for foster care cases that were previously unpaid, and an additional \$19.9M will support payments to relatives caring for children in our foster care system.
- Issued numerous "action alerts" to Federation membership using the advocacy tool "Muster." This allowed membership to easily engage with local, state, and federal-level elected officials on specific issues impacting the nonprofit community serving children and families.
- While the Federation membership has been actively contributing solutions aimed at resolving the usability and functionality of the MiSACWIS system, members advocated for a long-term strategy that would include a third-party assessment and/or evaluative process to determine the capacity of the MiSACWIS



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system to be fixed. This was achieved through federal court order by Judge Nancy Edmunds.

- Hosted a legislative breakfast event with Senate Health & Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Senator Peter MacGregor to connect his constituents and the agencies serving families in his district for a discussion focused on member budget priorities in the areas of family preservation, foster care unpaid cases and adoption.

Action

- Served as a conduit for daily troubleshooting for difficulties that agencies experience with navigating and implementing state policies, training requirements, data reporting and payment systems.
- Hosted a capacity audience at the sixth annual residential treatment conference, "Transforming Lives Through Innovative Residential Treatment," attracting nationally acclaimed speakers focused on best practices in treatment.
- Hosted successful Federation member agency and board representatives' legislative visits in Lansing and in-district to connect directly with elected state legislators regarding key child welfare policy priorities and state budget needs.
- Hosted a special training program for Michigan residential treatment leaders and stakeholders, featuring the national Building Bridges Initiative. The August in-person training and three webinars (July-August-September) focused on "Successfully Engaging and Partnering with Families: Challenges and Strategies for Success."
- Hosted a hugely successful 2018 Senior Management Conference themed "Innovation: The Pathway to Exceptional Performance," including a special national-initiatives pre-conference institute hosted by Casey Family Programs.

Our mission

To unite private, nonprofit human service providers, advocates, customers, individuals and funders to...

- ◆ influence public policy in support of children, families and individuals reaching their full potential;
- ◆ identify, develop and implement efficient and effective services to Michigan's most vulnerable children and families; and
- ◆ support and enhance the ability of Michigan's private, nonprofit agencies to provide human services.

Each year, Federation member agencies generate

human and economic impact and community investment.

Collectively, member agencies:

- ◆ Serve the critical needs of over **100,000** children and **75,000** adults throughout the state
- ◆ Provide over a **half-billion dollars** worth of services to vulnerable children and families
- ◆ Generate over **\$45 million** in private donations to help offset operating costs
- ◆ Utilize over **\$350 million** in equipment, land and buildings to serve vulnerable children and families
- ◆ Employ nearly **10,000** individuals across the state and pay salaries totaling more than **\$325 million**
- ◆ Generate nearly **\$25 million** in payroll taxes and pay nearly **\$60 million** in fringe benefits
- ◆ Engage over **700** community and business leaders as members of agency boards of directors
- ◆ Activate more than **30,000** volunteers, who generously devote over **670,000** hours of donated service to children and families

Corporate sponsors

The Michigan Federation for Children and Families is especially grateful for the financial support of its **Corporate Sponsors**:

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