



*Bridging Bright
Futures for Families*

**ERICSA
2024**

Grand Rapids

**ERICSA 61ST ANNUAL
TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION
APRIL 7-11, 2024**

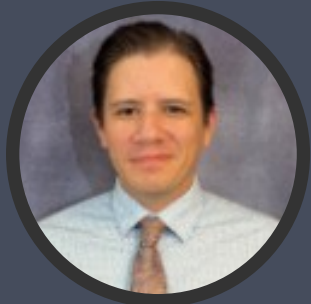
A Bridge Over Troubled Waters – Safe Child Support for Domestic Violence Survivors

Survivors of domestic violence need child support services designed to protect them and their children, they need child support staff who have been trained on the intersection of DV and child support, and they need a child support program that is trauma informed and responsive. When child support doesn't do these things, batterers use our system to continue to financially, emotionally, and physically harm their victims. In 2022 the federal Office of Child Support Services (OCSS) launched a national demonstration project, SAVES (Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security) with 13 state and tribal child support agencies to model what a "DV smart" child support program looks like. Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio are three states in the SAVES demonstration and they, along with OCSS, will share some key lessons learned, resources designed to promote safe access to child support, examples of critical partnerships for survivor and staff safety, and model DV training resources for child support staff.



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A Bridge Over Troubled Waters – Safe Child Support for Domestic Violence Survivors



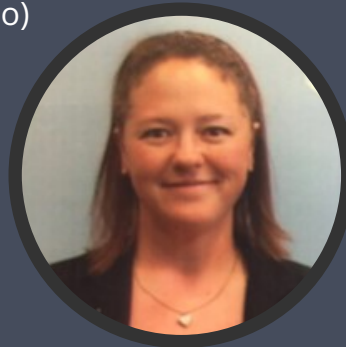
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Friend of the Court Bureau



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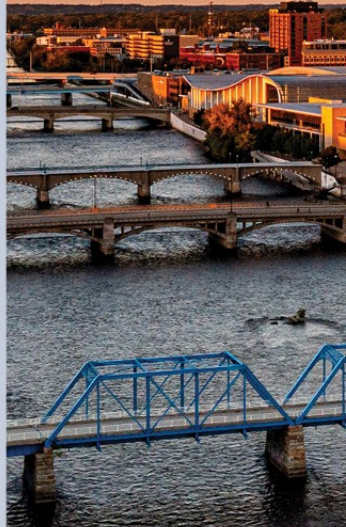
Franklin County, Ohio



- Franklin County CSEA Family Safety Bulletin
 - Once per month, send out a training or video to watch and have a report back time in our FCCSEA Family Safety Workgroup meetings.
- Franklin County DV Fatality Review Team
 - Review DV related fatality in Franklin County
 - Team of people from all local Board of Commissioner agencies, area hospitals and crisis centers, local prosecutor and police force
- Family Safety Conversation Guides
- Rack Card (coming soon)!
- SAFE assignments
 - Supportive Activities Eostering Employee development
 - Small activities or changes that employees can utilize to raise awareness, promote safety, and represent behaviors in support of the overall family safety goals of the SAVES demonstration grant.
 - YOU ROCK cards
 - “Is now a safe time to talk?”
 - Write down one thing each day you are proud of yourself for doing or handling well.

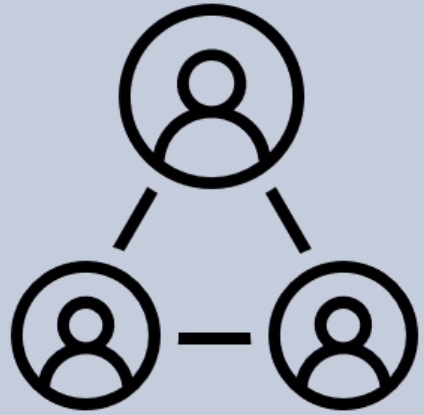
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MN Advisory Council Survivor Acknowledgement



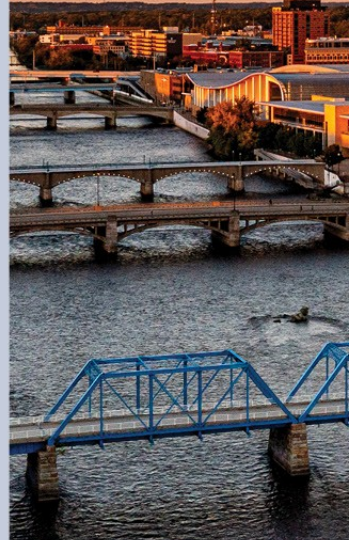
Five lived experience experts in MN SAVES

- We acknowledge victims/survivors and keep all those impacted by family violence or other forms of abuse at the forefront of our work. We recognize the devastating impact of family violence on individuals, families, and communities, and honor those lost and unseen in this work.
- We recognize that safety is a unique experience for everyone, and that what is safe for one person may not be for another as there is no universal survivor experience even though there are commonalities. We honor the strength and resilience of the children and adults who have and may still be experiencing family violence and understand that being a survivor does not mean the experience is “over” or that it will feel “over.”
- While we honor and recognize those who see themselves in this language and those who don’t yet use the language of survivor to explain their experience, we understand this is a statement and that tangible actions are needed to address the financial, mental, physical, familial, and social impacts of being a survivor.

Developed by survivor members and approved by full advisory council as part of our group charter

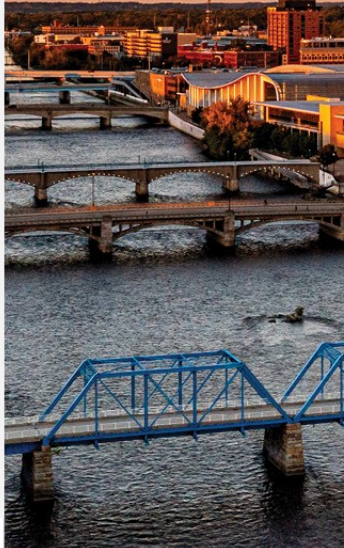
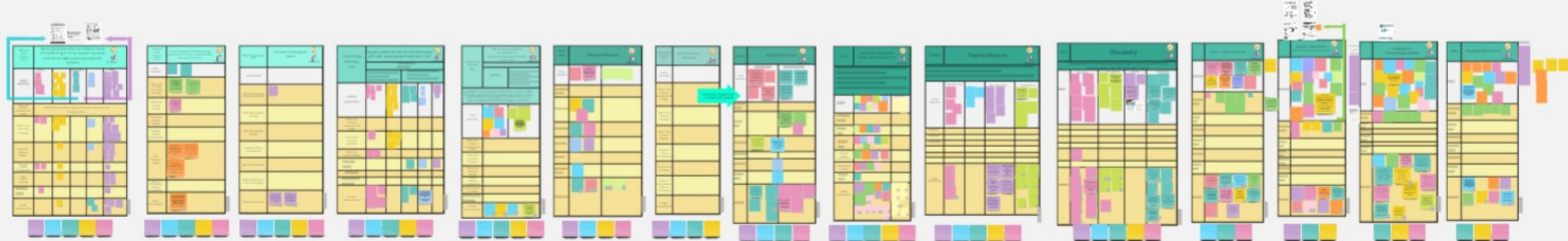
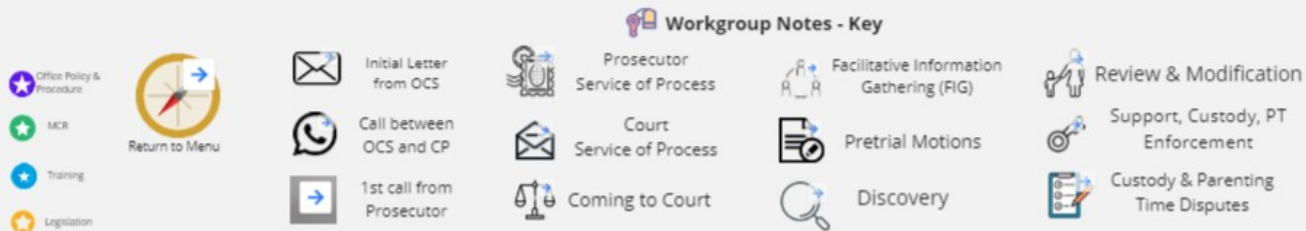


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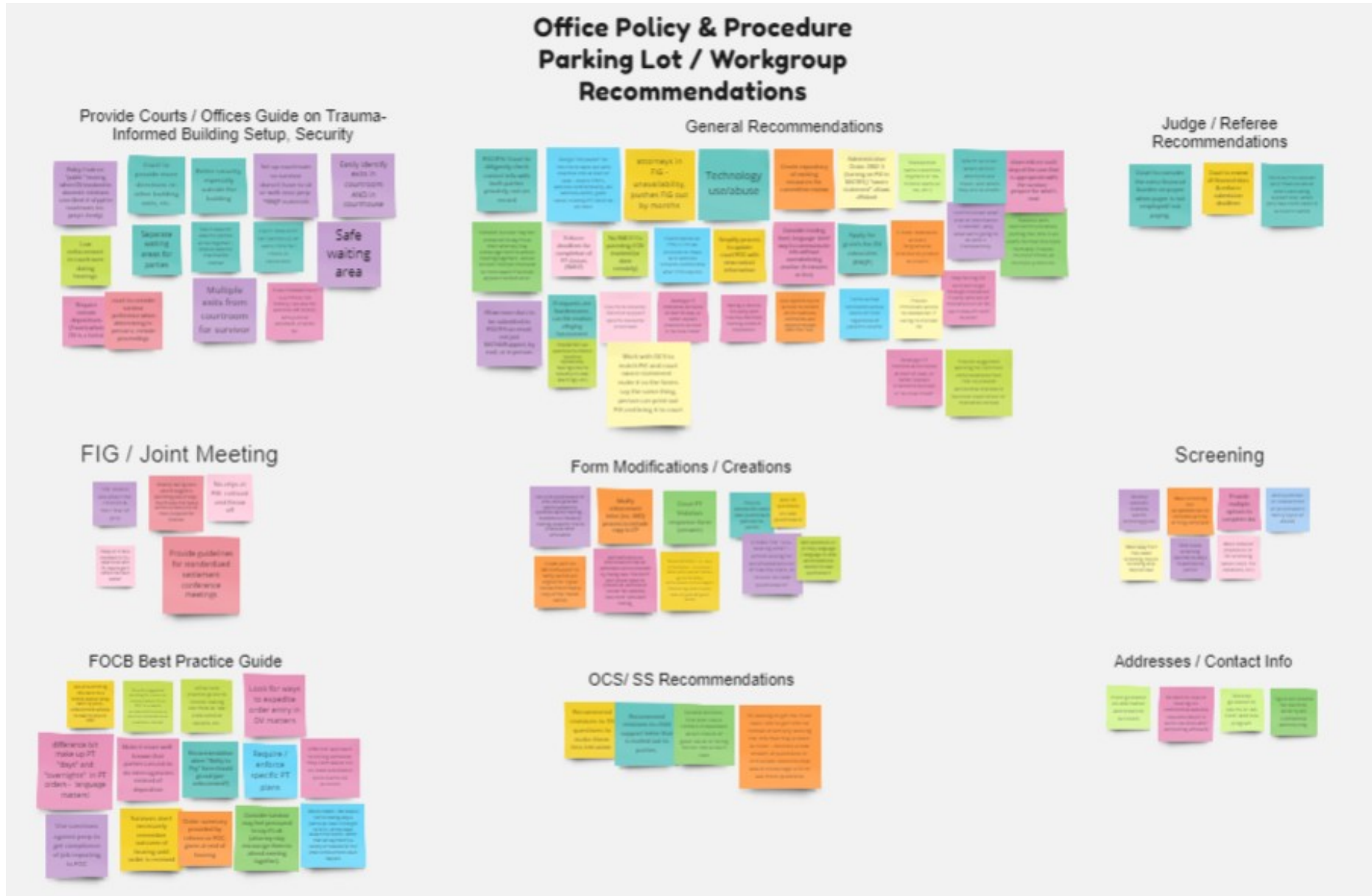


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Michigan – Process Mapping



Michigan – Process Mapping & Committee Assignments (Example)



Franklin County, OH Resource

ACCESSING CHILD SUPPORT SAFELY

The Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency cares about the safety of you and your family.

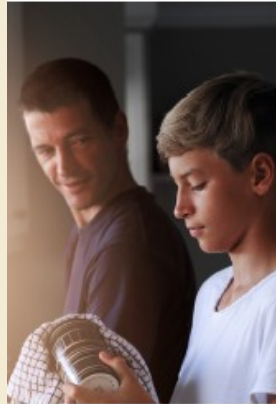
We offer these free services to eligible parents and caretakers:

- Safety modifications and confidentiality flag.
- Administrative hearings conducted over the phone.
- Appointments scheduled separately.
- Good Cause waiver in eligible cases where it would not be in your family's best interest to pursue child support.



Let us know concerns and questions you have so we can discuss options available for your situation.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:



- Establishment of legal parentage.
- Establishment of support orders.
- Collection of monthly and past due child support obligations.
- Modification of eligible child support orders.
- Enforcement of child support obligations.
- Termination of child support for qualifying reasons.
- Shared Parenting Plan Mediation.



Franklin County
Board of Commissioners
**CHILD SUPPORT
ENFORCEMENT**

80 East Fulton Street, Columbus, OH 43215

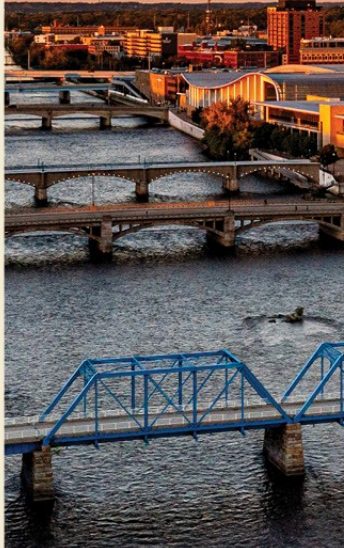
Main Customer Service Line: 614-525-3275

Support.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

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MN Key Year 1 Takeaway, Centering Our Lived Experience Experts

“Thank you for all you do! I've not been apart of a group that really does have the survivors in the forefront of everything, I really appreciate it. “

“I am realizing our input can impact this work significantly - great conversation is happening and it's in depth.”

“Thank you for the changes that are already being made from our suggestions as we actively try to improve these areas.”

“Some of us survivors may be dealing with ongoing effects of abuse, people should have an awareness that “survivor” does not mean the situation is over”



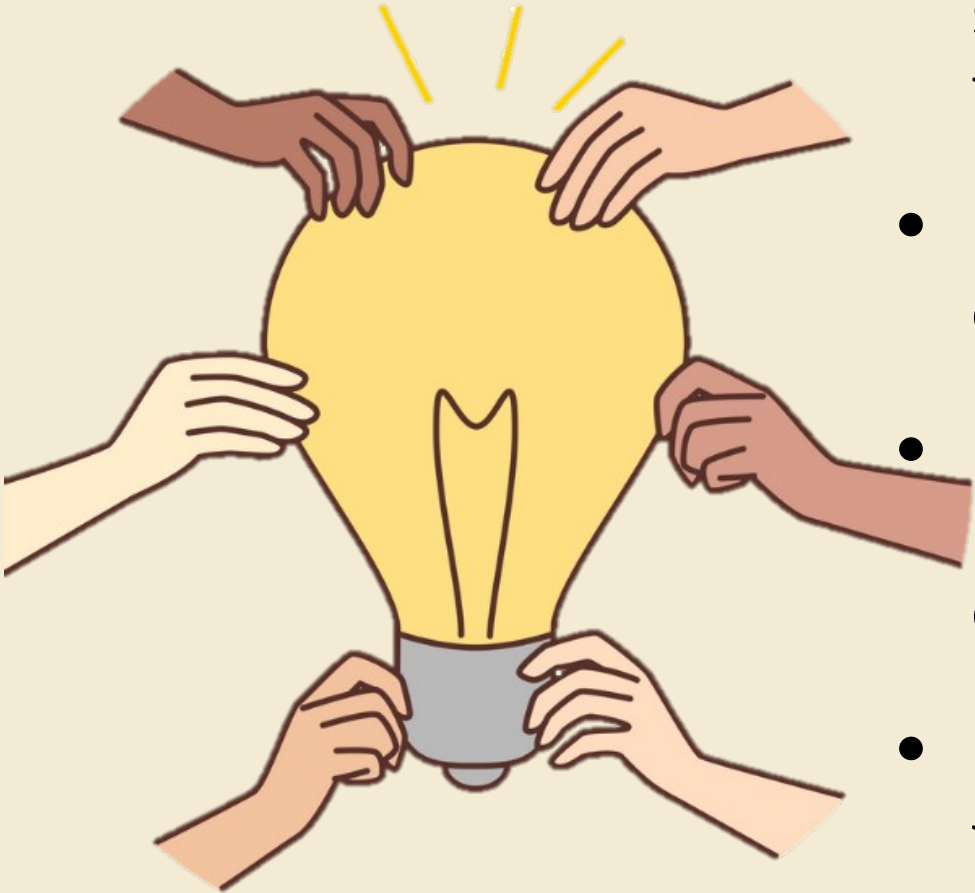
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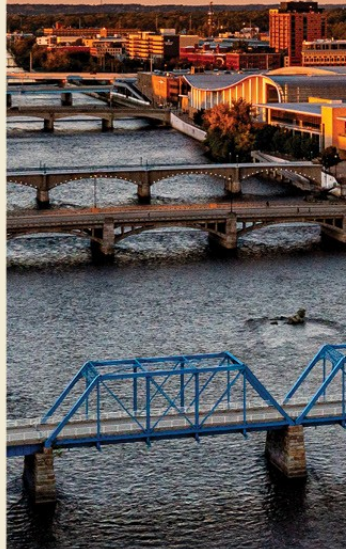


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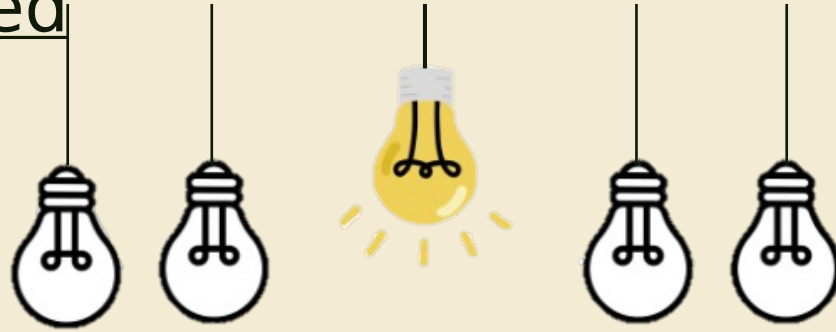
Muskegon's Lessons Learned



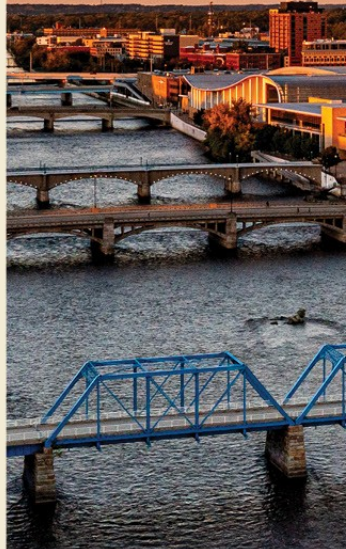
- Cast a wide net for partners. You will get some surprisingly amazing voices at the table
- Prepare for staff resistance, and work to overcome it
- Make sure that you are constantly in “education” mode- teach everyone you encounter about DV and child support
- Don't be afraid to not “get it right” the first time. Some things will work, and others will not



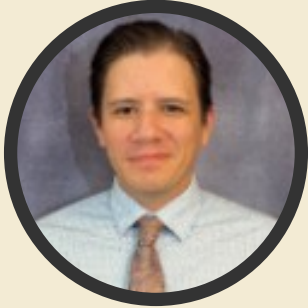
Michigan Workgroup Lessons Learned



- Distrust of the child support program and court runs deeper than the relationship.
- Unexpected pushback to solutions based on lived experience that had proper outcome.
- There was a huge intersection between our cases and child protection – yet there is virtually no coordination.
- The number of ways a person can abuse someone were beyond our comprehension.



Thank You!



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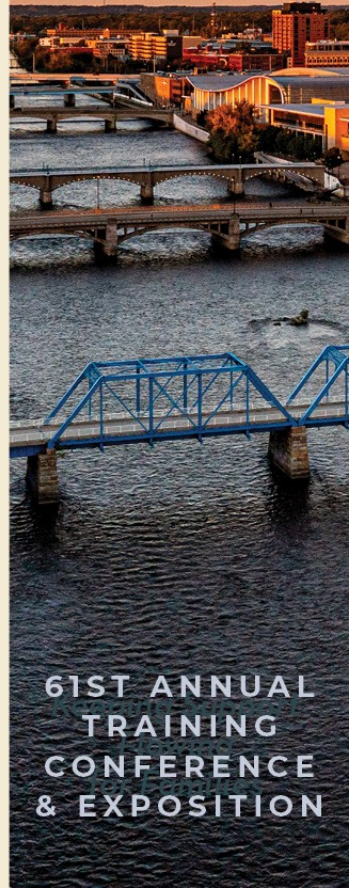
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